www.saipantribune.com 50¢ Volume XXII, Issue No. 284 **WEDNESDAY** DECEMBER 5, 2012

OPINION METER This week's poll:

Have you started your Christmas shopping yet?

Let your voice be heard! www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

NATION



White House weighs options to secure Syria's chemical and biological ➤ PAGE 14

FOCUS



Software company founder John McAfee says he has fled from Be-➤ PAGE 17

LIFE & STYLE



Prince William's wife, Kate, is pregnant.

➤ PAGE 19

Court puts GLHIP under ad litem's authority. PAGE 5 Man arrested for setting fire to building. PAGE 7

PROPOSED SHIPYARD AND POWER PLANT

'Best possible deal for CNMI'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

aipan Development LLC adviser Kenneth Mahmood said yesterday that the planned multimillion shipyard facility and new 50-megawatt power plant in Lower

Base is the best | » Mahmood says deal possible for the CNMI, and hopes that the people of the islands can get behind

impeaching the governor will have bad business impact

these projects to spur economic growth.

He also said that impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who has less than two years left on his term, and local politics are not helping lure more investors into the CNMI.

Delaware-based Saipan Development LLC bagged a sole-source, \$190.8-million diesel power purchase deal that the governor and former attorney general Edward Buckingham signed off on.

SDLLC is co-founded by David Mahmood of Allegiance Capital Corp. and Don Kurz of Keystone Shipping. David and Kenneth Mahmood are brothers.

SDLLC plans to set up a shipyard facility in Lower Base that will encompass the current location of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Part of the shipyard project

See DEAL on Page 4

DPL corrects itself

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com

Department of Public Lands acting secretary Pete Itibus said yesterday that DPL's new Managaha regulations have not been adopted and implemented yet, correcting a previous DPL statement about a Nov. 29 effective date of the new rule.

House Natural Resources Committee chair Joe Palacios (R-Saipan), at the same time, said yesterday that the

» 'New Managaha rules not implemented yet'

date of a public hearing on the rule will be up to DPL. "As of today, it's a status quo. The new rules have

not been adopted and implemented yet," Itibus told Saipan Tribune.

Palacios said his Nov. 20 letter still stands. It says DPL "has no authority to adopt the proposed regula-

See DPL on Page 4

Mahmood, Osborne subpoenaed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Two men associated with Saipan Development LLC were served subpoenas yesterday afternoon to testify at a deposition in connection with a taxpayers' lawsuit on a sole-source \$190.8 million diesel power purchase agreement.

Kenneth Mahmood, adviser for Saipan Development LLC, and Jason Osborne, consultant for Allegiance Capital Corp., were subpoenaed to testify at a deposition on Dec. 17 and 18, respectively, said attorney Ray Quichocho, counsel for Reps. Janet Maratita (IR-Saipan), Ray Yumul (IR-Saipan), the CNMI Senate, and

utility ratepayers.

Mahmood and Osborne are currently on Saipan, meeting with lawmakers, other government officials, their counsels, businesses and other stakeholders on the shipyard facility and power plant project.

SDLLC is founded by Alle-See MAHMOOD on Page 4



Saipan Development LLC adviser Kenneth Mahmood, left, and Jason Osborne, right, consultant for Allegiance Capital Corp., answer questions about a multimillion shipyard facility and a new 50-megawatt power plant in Lower Base, during an interview in the KSPN 2 studio in Susupe yesterday afternoon. Mahmood and Osborne have been making the rounds, trying to provide as much information about the projects and address concerns people may have with these planned investments on Saipan.

Tinian mayor, DPL in tug of war over Tachogna Beach

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Tinian and Aguiguan Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz asked the 17th Tinian Legislative Delegation to transfer the ownership of Tachogna Beach to the municipality after the acting secretary of the Department of Public Lands

Dela Cruz

twice denied a similar request.

Dela Cruz, at the same time,

wants clarification from the acting DPL secretary why he denied two requests to transfer the title for Tachogna Beach to the Tinian municipality.

In a Nov. 28 letter to delegation chair Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider,

Dela Cruz said that there is no constitutional reason why the land cannot be transferred to the municipality, adding that the transfer is "the right thing to do" given the Mayor's Office's plans to upgrade and maintain the facilities at Tachogna Beach using CIP funds.

Tachogna Beach is home to the Annual Tinian Hot Pepper or Pika Festival every February and is a

See TACHOGNA on Page 4

2 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Local

Marianas Health, Karidat tie up for Toys for Tots

By CLARISSA V. DAVID REPORTER

Donations will start rolling in for the Toys for Tots program of the Karidat Social Services after Marianas Health Services agreed to sponsor the holiday toy collection drive this year.

Officials of both organizations met yesterday to confirm the good news, which guarantees that children served by the CNMI's premier social agency on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota would each receive a toy this Christmas.

"We're really glad that we're going to give toys to bring smiles to the children this Christmas. Really, Christmas is for the children because we're celebrating the birth of Christ. Let's celebrate the birthday of Jesus by giving toys to the children in the community," said Karidat executive director Angie V. Guerrero.

This is the second year for Marianas Health Services to partner with Karidat for the Toys for Tots program, which collects new or used-like-new toys that are unwrapped and appropriate for children ages 0 to 11 from less fortunate families.

The first time was in 2010,

explained that they were not able to sponsor the program last year as the company had to deal with a lot of things, including the transfer to a new office.

It was the Society of Human Resource Management that sponsored the toy drive in 2011. Prior to that, Northwest Financial and Wells Fargo took charge of Toys for Tots on behalf of Karidat.

"We hope that everyone would be able to still donate something this year and make it just as successful," added Cruz.

He said the sponsorship would mean Marianas Health Services would be taking the lead in inviting and following up on businesses and individuals to donate toys, adding that they already formed a team that would be involved in the initiative.

Besides coordinating the toy drive efforts, Cruz said their staff will also donate toys.

"This is an opportunity for us to get into the Christmas spirit and spread it to others," he told Saipan Tribune. "Even with our economic crisis many of us are experiencing, we don't want to pass it on to the children of the CNMI. This is one way of showing that there's still a lot of hope

and administrator George Cruz and the businesses and people in the community still care.'

> Cruz said that for now, both Marianas Health Services and Karidat will serve as the drop off points for the toy dona-

whether there would be additional locations to facilitate the toy drive.

Deadline for donating toys is on Dec. 18, and Marianas

tions. They are still working on Health Services will turn over the unwrapped toys to Karidat the following day for matching and distribution to parents who will be in charge of wrapping the toys for their own children.

Although they would not have as much time for the toy drive, Cruz noted that whatever the community is able to give would be "better than noth-

See KARIDAT on Page 4

_imtiaco wants lengthy prison term for suspect in sex trafficking scheme

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the NMI, wants a lengthy prison sentence imposed on the suspect in a sex trafficking scheme that lured Chinese women to Saipan on false promises of jobs and then forced them into prostitution.

Limtiaco indicated her position in an 11-page sentencing memorandum issued yesterday for Wei Lin, who pleaded to conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and to benefit financially from a sex trafficking venture.

According to the memorandum, Lin's conviction rightfully exposes him to a lifetime of imprisonment, which is actually the same as if he had been convicted of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction.

"Therefore, a lengthy prison sentence must be imposed not

only to punish this defendant for all that he has done, but equally important, to send a clear message to others engaged in similar conduct that trafficking will not be tolerated in the CNMI," stated Limtiaco, adding that the government will abstain from

stating its exact sentencing recommendation until the applicable range has been determined.

Chinese Three women traveled to the CNMI in August and September 2010 based upon Lin's

promises, and other working on his behalf, of jobs at a new hotel that Lin was purportedly opening on Saipan. Lin, and co-defendant Yanchun Li, were charged with a count of conspiracy to commit sex trafficking and to benefit financially from a sex trafficking venture; three counts of

Limtiaco

sex trafficking by force, fraud, or coercion; and one count of financially benefiting from a sex trafficking venture.

According to the indictment, Rosen Music Studio was a karaoke bar in Chalan Laulau that also provided sexual services

> for an added fee. Most, if not all, of the commercial sexual acts were performed outside the karaoke bar. In exchange for a portion of the proceeds, Lin provided Rosen Music Studio with women to per-

form the sexual services. Sex acts performed by these women generally took place in an apartment procured by Lin. He also paid Li to, among other things, transport the women back and forth from the Rosen Music Studio to the Hong Apartment, and in some cases, to and from hotels.

"The government asserts that

defendant's actions were based solely on greed and displayed a shocking disregard for basic human dignity. To him, these women were not living, breathing creatures, rather products to be bought and sold. The nature and circumstances of these offenses thus call for a severe punishment that acknowledges the permanent harm defendant has inflicted upon the lives of the four victims," stated Limtiaco.

Worse still, Limtiaco said, the defendant continues to deny the full extent of his actions and shows no remorse for the manner in which he treated the victims other than his empty, insincere claim that he "deeply apologizes" to everyone for his actions.

Limtiaco added that the defendant's complete lack of respect for the laws of this country is not only shown through his criminal conduct in this case, but also by his illegal immigration status.



FREE Training Courses



Cultura Athletics, LLC under a sub-award grant issued to Marianas Resource Conservation & Development Council is able to provide the follow courses free of charge to U.S. eligible workers. Some courses also qualify for professional development credit with the CNMI Public School System.

ALTHETICS COURSE (Oleai Sports Complex)

Intro to Athletics 12-hours December 8 & 15, 2012

BASKETBALL COURSES (Ada Gym)

Basketball 101 December 5 & 6, 2012 16-hours **Basketball Coaching** December 10-14, 2012 20-hours Level 1

For information and to register for the above courses, contact: Elias Rangamar at (670) 235-1775 or email eli rang@yahoo.com

VOLLEYBALL COURSES

Coaching Mini Volleyball 8:30a-2:30p Dec 3-6, 2012 Dec 10-14, 2012 Dec 17-21, 2012 (for Elementary Schools)

Coaching Volleyball for Beginners

8:30a-2:30p Dec 17-21, 2012 (for Junior High Schools) Jan 2-4, 2013

Indoor Volleyball Referee Dec 13 & 14, 2012 4:00p-8:00p (MHS Gym) Dec 18 & 20, 2012 Dec 27 & 28, 2012

BASKETBALL COURSES (MHS Gym)

Scoretable Official 4:00p-8:00p Dec 4, 6, 11, 2012 (Consecutive 3-day Sessions) Dec 17, 19, 21, 2012

L "O"/1 Basketball Referee Dec 3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 2012 4:00p-8:00p Jan 7-11, 2013 (Consecutive 5-day Sessions)

For information and **to register** for the above courses, please contact: Volleyball Courses training.programs@nmivolleyball@gmail.com Basketball Courses 731ekul@gmail.com or call 234-6548 (Office) or 287-2424 (Mobile)

This program is supported by federal funds in the amount of \$145,000.00 under the U.S. Department" of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, CNMI Economic and Labor Enhancement Program through a Sub-grant award from the CNMI Department of Commerce."



Arrival of CHC's new dishwasher expected by mid-January

By MONETH G. DEPOSA moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com REPORTER

One of the key equipment needed to address citations from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services will not be available at the public hospital at least for this year, according to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

Warren Villagomez, chairperson of the newly formed medical equipment committee, disclosed that a new dishwasher has been procured from Pennsylvania and its shipment to the CNMI is expected by middle of January next year.

Villagomez's committee assumed the responsibilities for accountability, inventory, procurement, contracts, and preventive maintenance of all medical equipment for the public hospital.

The corporation was given until Dec. 3, 2012, to show Medicare that it has rectified all identified deficiencies at the public hospital. The dishwasher was one of the components that needed to be addressed, being one of the two remaining immediate jeopardy statuses that were slapped on CHC.

"We purchased a new dishwasher through Wan Koo company and we're currently

communicating with them on a daily basis. The estimated shipping [of the equipment] is mid-January but we will get the manifest and tracking numbers [to show Medicare]. The equipment is being manufactured in Pennsylvania and we're projecting 15-20 days shipping time to Saipan," said Villagomez.

Although the corporation did not "physically and logistically" meet the Dec. 3 dead-

line for the new dishwasher, CEO Juan N. Babauta said the corporation, however, continues to provide CMS all evidence that the new equipment has already been paid for.

Corporation officials disclosed that all additional evidences were submitted last Saturday to CMS. COO Esther Muña told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday that a response has been received from Medicare on these submissions.

"CMS acknowledged receipt of our letter and supporting documents. They are in the process of reviewing and promised they will come up with a decision soon," Muña said. Among the documents submitted this week were the signed contract agreements with specific vendors for uninterrupted services to the hospital.

CMS, after the documents review, may either affirm or revoke the corporation's certification with Medicare, which provides the CNMI \$8 million to \$10 million in reimbursements yearly.

New ACs, other projects

In the meantime, Villagomez



reported that the corporation has submitted to the Capital Improvement Project office a request to fund the replacement of air-conditioning units at the public hospital. The local CIP office, he said, is coordinating the survey and picture taking of the existing units.

Last week, the committee also addressed the oxygen generator for the Rota Health Center, which has been fixed and is now functioning. Besides this, the repair of the x-ray machine is also being worked on for the Rota center.

For Tinian Health Center, Villagomez reported that the emergency room's entrance door has been fixed and the installation of the center's new A/C unit has been completed. This is projected to save the center 25 percent on its utility bills.



Fitial to address fisheries convention in Manila

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will be addressing ministers of fisheries at the ongoing annual meeting in Manila, Philippines, of the Western and Pacific Fisheries Commission, which regulates commercial fishing in the vast expanse of waters from Indonesia to Hawaii.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said yesterday that the governor will also be working closely with the U.S. State Department, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council in the planning and development of a CNMI commercial longline fishery industry.

"The CNMI is currently working on a development plan for the establishment of a com-

mercial longline fishing facility that would include docking, fueling, and fish processing adjacent to the former Puerto Rico Dump," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

Fitial's trip is funded by the federal government through the Marine Conservation Plan funds collected from fines collected by the federal government as a result of illegal fishing convictions or settlements.

Accompanying Fitial are Demapan, first lady Josie Fitial, and Division of Fish and Wildlife's Richard Seman, an incoming representative in the 18th Legislature.

Demapan said Fitial will address ministers of fisheries from countries throughout the western and central Pacific Ocean such as Japan, South Korea, People's Republic of China, the Philippines, Australia, New

Zealand, Tonga, Papua New Guinea, the United States, and the European Union, he added.

"There are also major fisheries issues [that] would be discussed and deliberated upon during the convention that may greatly impact the CNMI's proposed fishery development program such as catch quota and allocation, conservation and management measures, and technical and compliance standards," Demapan said.

During Sunday's opening of the WPFC Convention, governments and environmentalists raised alarm over destructive fishing methods and overfishing that are threatening the Pacific Ocean's bigeye tuna, the fish popular among sushi lovers the world over.

The more than 600 delegates from about 40 Asian and Western countries, along with envi-

ronmental activists, seek to approve steps aimed at protecting the bigeye and other threatened tuna species, along with giant whale sharks, AP reported.

Demapan said the Convention "seeks to address problems in the management of high seas fisheries resulting from unregulated fishing, over-capitalization, excessive fleet capacity, vessel re-flagging to escape controls, insufficiently selective gear, unreliable databases and insufficient multilateral cooperation in respect to conservation and management of highly migratory fish stocks."

Fitial left Saipan on Sunday, reportedly the same day Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, now acting governor, and Demapan returned from the Marshall Islands where they attended the Micronesian Chief Executives Summit.





TACHOGNA

From Page 1

prime property close to the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino in San Jose.

"We want to own it because we want to put in capital investment into this facility. I don't want to be investing much money in there if that particular area belongs to Public Lands," Dela Cruz told Saipan Tribune in a phone interview yesterday.

He said the Tinian municipality is ready to use local CIP funds to rebuild and modernize the facilities at Tachogna Beach. These facilities include the main pavilion, restroom and shower, and picnic tables.

Dela Cruz noted that the facilities have deteriorated over the years "to a point that it's unsafe already," and plans to rehabilitate and repair them for the 9th year of the Pika Festival in February 2013 are estimated to cost some \$50,000.

"We have to invest major money to further develop the area and make it more serviceable and enticing to visitors," he added.

The Tinian mayor twice requested DPL, through acting secretary Ramon S. Salas, to transfer the deed for Tachogna Beach to the municipality.

Salas, however, informed Dela Cruz on Aug. 27 that the request "is not permissible at this time." On Nov. 8, Salas reiterated that DPL "stays firm" with its decision to deny the request, adding that the agency does not have the funds to pursue reconstruction and repair work at the site.

Salas added that a temporary authorization request should be submitted should the Tinian Mayor's Office decide to revitalize Tachogna Beach.

Dela Cruz made the same request to Salas' predecessor, former secretary Oscar M. Babauta. The request also asked for the fee simple designation of Kammer and Taga beaches.

He said he is "getting really pissed off" with DPL which he said is wasting their time instead of allowing and assisting them to enhance one of Tinian's signature events. "We're trying to accomplish something but these people always place a roadblock in

front of us."

Dela Cruz is optimistic that the Tinian Legislative Delegation, through Hofschneider, will assist them in their request.

'We need somebody who can see what we're trying to accomplish here,"

According to Dela Cruz, the transfer of the Tachogna Beach is not the only issue that they have to deal with DPL. Tinian's homestead program is also a concern because the agency did not survey the homestead property nor did it conduct an environmental study. This resulted in the government holding off the awarding of homesteads due to toxic materials that might have contaminated the area.

Dela Cruz said he plans to express his opposition to Salas' confirmation to his DPL post during a hearing which the Senate has yet to schedule. "I'm going to object to his appointment for a lot of reasons."

The mayor added that government agencies should work together for the best interest of Tinian and the entire

concerns about the project, and discuss the project with them.

"The bottom line is the power plant project is secondary to what we want to accomplish. And we want to be good neighbors. We want to employ CNMI residents to work on the shipyard...so were not here to make money off the power plant, we're here to make money collectively, not off the backs of the people..." he said.

They also clarified that CUC won't be obligated to pay for 50 megawatts of power when it only needs less than 30MW, for example. However, the plant will have a capacity to produce

"They're paying for the 50MW plant, they're not paying 50MW of power," they said. "There's a distinction."

get the hotels online, and give them a much better deal than what they cur-

man of the Senate Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications, said he would like to meet again with SDLLC officials to have the panel's concerns addressed. He and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) separately said if it were for them, they would like to have the next meeting with senators at the Legislature so that the public would also be able to watch and listen to the discussions.

DENTAL EQUIPMENT

U.S. MARINE CORPS/LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK Local Tinian fire fighters and volunteers assist Lt. Cmdr. Matthew R. Doubrava, middle, and Sgt. Justin M. Pack deliver donated dental supplies from Ordot Dental Clinic on Guam to the Tinian Health Clinic Dec.1 during Exercise Forager Fury 2012. Doubrava is the senior medical officer for Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. Pack is a combat correspondent for Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Marine Corps Installations Pacific. See story on Page 8

CHC sees new \$7K monthly income from reimbursements

By MONETH G. DEPOSA

moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta disclosed that the corporation has a "new" investment that is bringing in \$7,000 in additional revenue to the public hospital monthly.

The new money comes from paying the premium share of hospital dialysis patients who have no capability to fulfill their premiums to Medicare. By shouldering their payments, the corporation in return receives reimbursement from Medicare, Babauta said.

"What we did is we identified more than 10 dialysis patients who were not paying their premiums to Medicare. We took it upon ourselves to shoulder their premiums using the corporation funds. And because we decided to do that kind of investment, the return for that is \$5,000 to \$7,000 monthly [reimbursement] to CHCC," said Babauta during his report to the corporation board Friday.

Revenue jump

Corporation COO and chief financial officer Esther Muña disclosed that the corporation saw a significant jump in its revenue in October, primarily due to reimbursements from both Medicare and Medicaid.

For Saipan alone, Muña said that actu-

al cash collected by the Commonwealth Health Center amounted to \$2.5 million, with \$496,000 from Medicare payments; \$848,000 from Medicaid payments, and \$777,000 from all other accounts.

Saipan Tribune learned that the corporation also collected \$24,728 from the Rota Health Center and \$19,172 from the Tinian Health Center for October.

Corporation officials earlier disclosed that the Tinian and Rota centers each post expenditures of \$1.3 million to \$1.4 million a year compared to minimal collections of only over \$100,000 yearly. One of the reasons cited was the actual low charge assessed patients in both centers, which result in these centers being subsidized by the corporation. Due to the added burden on the already challenged corporation, the corporation is planning to give the operation of these centers back to their respective municipalities.

Babauta disclosed that after receiving a comprehensive report on the Rota Health Center, the corporation is anticipating to receive a similar report from the Tinian Health Center soon to better assess both centers' operations and needs.

He reported to the board that in terms of healthcare coverage for both islands, three attending physicians—two on Rota and one on Tinian—are assigned to the two municipalities.

DPL

From Page 1

tions" and even if it had that authority to promulgate regulations, "the Legislature can withdraw or modify that authority."

"The public hearing date on the Managaha rules, that's DPL's call," he

Itibus, for his part, said he has yet to talk to DPL counsel Michael Wilt about Palacios' statement.

DPL's proposed new rules limit how tourists from Managaha Island are picked up by marine sports operators for parasailing and banana boat tours, among other commercial activities.

Marine sports operators have been

asking DPL, as well as the House of Representatives, not to implement the proposed rules, citing its devastating impact on tourists, the operators' livelihood, and the tourism industry in general.

Cora Pangelinan, co-owner of Island Marine Sports, said yesterday she's glad to know that DPL is not implementing the rules. She hopes DPL will never have to implement it, and instead work with marine sports operators and Managaha concessionaire Tasi Tours on how to continue growing the tourism industry, not harm it.

Pangelinan said marine sports operators' lawyers are still negotiating with Tasi Tours counsel.

"The new rules are disadvantageous to marine sports operators," she said.

MAHMOOD

From Page 1

giance Capital's David Mahmood and Keystone Shipping's Don Kurz. The Delaware firm bagged the 25year power purchase deal that's one of the issues in a defeated resolution impeaching Gov. Benigno R. Fitial for corruption, neglect of duty, and

felony.

Maratita had said that the governor and SDLLC should be held in contempt and fined up to \$10,000 daily for allegedly violating a temporary restraining order prohibiting them from pursuing and/or performing on the sole-source \$190.8-million diesel power purchase agreement. Maratita also called on senators to stop what she described as "secret meetings."

KARIDAT

From Page 2

ing." He said that some establishments and private individuals have already pledged donations.

Karidat's Guerrero, for her part, added that JROTC units of public high schools also expressed their support for the toy drive on top of their donation of food items in time for the holidays.

"We know that times are tough but we're calling out to the community and asking them to donate any small or big gift," said Cruz.

To donate toys or for more information, visit Marianas Health Services located along Beach Road next to Morgen Building and San Jose Church or contact them at 233-4646 or info@ marianashealth.com. You may also visit Karidat in Chalan Kanoa or call 234-5248 or 6981.

DEAL

From Page 1

is the development of a 50-megawatt power plant that Kenneth Mahmood said would provide at least 10 percent engine efficiency and cheaper power.

Kenneth Mahmood is currently on Saipan. Jason Osborne, consultant for Allegiance Capital, has also been on the island.

Osborne, a former lobbyist, said his main task is to push for legislation to allow U.S. military vessels to be repaired in the CNMI. He has helped in the Republicans' political campaigns, including the recent Romney/Ryan presidential campaigns. In 2009, he was also campaign manager for Fitial's re-election. He said he made a commitment to Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) and Fitial that he will help push for this legislation.

Mahmood and Osborne provided more information about the shipyard and power plant projects in separate media interviews yesterday, as well as in meetings with lawmakers, businesses, and other individuals the past few days.

In the morning, Mahmood and Osborne were interviewed on KKMP Radio. They also had an interview in the KSPN 2 studio in Susupe yesterday afternoon, and that's where Saipan Tribune caught up with them.

They took issue with the statements made by numerous individuals to the CNMI media, as well as the media's own presentation of the facts, about the power purchase agreement.

Mahmood said it's not true that the power plant is bad for Saipan. The power plant itself is \$70 million but because of financing, the cost becomes \$190.8 million in 25 years, but Mahmood said it may not reach that

"There's nothing in the injunction that's true," he said.

The sole-source PPA is among the issues in a defeated resolution impeaching the governor for 16 allegations of corruption, neglect of duty, and felony. The incoming supermajority is reintroducing the impeachment resolution as early as January 2013.

Mahmood said he hopes the court injunction on the power plant project is lifted, so that parties could start working together and address issues to make the project work. He said he is not part of SDLLC so he doesn't think he's part of the injunction.

But within an hour after the KSPN 2 interview, Mahmood and Osborne were subpoenaed by the court to testify at separate depositions on Dec. 17 and 18. (See separate story)

Osborne said they are here "to get a lay of the land," to learn about peoples'

Mahmood said their goal also is to

rently have.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota), chair-

Federal court puts GLHIP under ad litem's authority

By MONETH G. DEPOSA REPORTER

A new health and life insurance program is being negotiated for the NMI Retirement Fund members after U.S. District Court designated judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood expanded the authority of the trustee ad litem to handle the government's Group Health Life Insurance Program.

The health and life insurance policy for retirees and active members of the NMI Retirement Fund is expiring by Dec. 31 this year and the court-appointed trustee ad litem, Joseph Razzano, filed an emergency motion requesting authority to negotiate a reduced contract with the insurance carrier.

When the court appointed Razzano last September, he was given several powers related to the operation of the pension agency but these excluded the authority to handle GHLIP—a government program whose administration is being handled by the Fund and its board of trustees.

According to Tydingco-Gatewood, the order appointing the trustee ad litem provides that Razzano shall have the authority, powers, and duties required and necessary over the person of the Fund to act on all matters that require board action.

She said this grant of power was is to be broad to incorporate the authority to perform all functions designated to the Fund board under Commonwealth law, including those provided under I CMC 8421-27.

"Accordingly, the court grants the motion and confirms the [ad litem's] authority to perform the functions designated to the board, including the handling of all matters regarding the group health and life insurance programs," stated Tydingco-Gatewood in her order issued Nov. 30.

It was in October 2007 when the then-board of trustees entered into a health insurance agreement with Aetna International for group accident and

policy is offered to active government employees and retirees. This policy has automatic renewal on Jan. 1, 2013.

The ad litem wants to negotiate a further reduced policy for members.

It was disclosed that under Aetna's early proposal to the then-board of trustees, it provided a 6.2 percent decrease in premiums, which can result in reduction of premiums of approximately \$1.5 million, with no change in the policy coverage. Razzano wants to negotiate a further reduction on the premihealth insurance coverage. This ums totaling some \$4 million.

SHRM conference to focus on employment law compliance

The NMI Chapter for the Society for Human Resources Management will be hosting its annual conference at the Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall on Thursday, Dec. 6, 2012. This year's conference's theme is "Employment Law Compliance."

With the recent federalization labor hiring requirements. of many aspects of the Commonwealth's economy, compliance with the various employment laws is an important skill. This year's agenda focuses on many aspects of employment law that will be crucial for HR practitioners and employers to understand.

Frank Gibson will be speaking about the local workforce readi-

ness initiative; Patrick Candoleta from the U.S. Department of Labor will be speaking about the Fair Labor Standards Act; David Gulick, USCIS Honolulu District director, will speak about CW-1 program issues; and Commonwealth officials will discuss local

We encourage you to make your reservations early by contacting Malou Jardinero at malou jardinero@tanholdings. com or call 237-0718. We also welcome advance payment for seat reservations prior to the day of the conference. Prices are \$30 for SHRM members and \$45 for non-members. The fee includes lunch and rereshments. (SHRM)

SOCIETY FOR HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - NMI CHAPTER



Presents

Employment Law Compliance

Thursday, December 6, 2012 **Hibiscus Hall** Fiesta Resort & Spa, Saipan



Conference	Agenda

Conference Agen	da
7:30 – 8:00 am	Registration & Refreshments
8:00 – 8:15 am	Welcome Debra T. Camacho President, SHRM NMI Chapter Human Resources Manager, Pacific Trading Company
8:15 – 8:30 am	Workforce Readiness initiative Update Frank Gibson Program Manager
8:30 – 9:45 am	Fair Labor Standards Act (Hours Worked, Overtime, Deductions from Pay, Recordkeeping and FMLA) Speaker: Patrick Candoleta US Department of Labor
9:45 – 10:00 am	Break
10:00 – 11:30 am	CW-1 Renewal Process and the implementation Status of the CNMI-Only Transitional Worker Rule Keynote Speaker: David Gulick USCIS Honolulu District Director
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Lunch/Networking Opportunity
1:00 – 1:30 pm	Local Labor Hiring Requirements Speaker: Alfred Pangelinan CNMI Department of Labor, Division of Employment Services
1:30 – 2:50 pm	Available and Underutilized US Visa Possibilities in a Federalized Immigration and Labor Scenario Speaker: Bruce Mailman Mailman & Kara, LLC
2:50 – 3:00 pm	Summary & Closing Remarks Malou Ernest Vice President / 2013 President Elect, SHRM NMI Chapter

Human Resources Director, Asia Pacific Hotels, Inc.

LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE HIGH QUALITY RICE? LOOK NO MORE...

AVAILABLE SOON HERE IN SAIPAN. IN ALL TWINS SUPERMARKET LOCATIONS (DANDAN & LOWER NAVY HILL) and GARAPAN HAPPY MARKET.

EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY:

LW CORPORATION



NMC takes on new role as facilitator for higher education

By CLARISSA V. DAVID

clarissa_david@saipantribune.com REPORTER

With the inclusion of the CNMI in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, the Northern Marianas College takes on a new role as a "facilitator" that would help Commonwealth students consider pursuing or continuing their higher education.

"We must be there to help the residents of the CNMI, even if it means to help them look at taking their education somewhere else," NMC president Sharon Hart, Ph.D., said yesterday.

Hart, guest speaker at the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Saipan, emphasized that the doors of opportunities that were opened as a result of the membership of the Northern Marianas to WICHE last month



are "absolutely phenomenal."

The CNMI became the first U.S. territory and the 16th member of the regional organization established over 55 years ago to promote and facilitate the sharing of higher education sources among Western states.

Of the 30 different programs that WICHE offers, Hart discussed three of them at the meeting: the Western Undergraduate Exchange or WUE, the Western Regional

CLARISSA V. DAVID Northern Marianas College president Sharon Hart, Ph.D., right, talks about the CNMI's inclusion in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education as Rotary Club of Saipan president Pete Shilling looks on during yesterday's meeting at Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Graduate Program or WRGP, and the Professional Student Exchange Program or PSEP.

WUE allows resident students of participating Western states to enroll in designated two-year or four-year public college programs at a tuition rate that is less than the regular nonresident rate. PSEP provides opportunities to students to enroll in out-of-state programs in healthcare disciplines, including medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and physical therapy.

WRGP gives individuals the chance to enroll as master's graduate certificate or Ph.D. students in any of the nearly 280 programs at resident or state tuition rates, resulting in an average savings of \$10,800 per student.

Hart said the CNMI's partner-

ship with WICHE is timely and "definitely needed," given that the only community college on island only has seven associate degree programs and one baccalaureate degree program.

"With our economic situation, we cannot go out and start a new program. We would love to, but we can't," she added.

Hart cited the importance of education, saying that the more educated a state or territory is, the better off it is economically. The CNMI, she noted, is ranked lower than all the 50 states.

"We have to have an educated workforce," said Hart. "This college stands prepared to do whatever we can. I say this in an unselfish way, that we have to look at the best interest of the CNMI and not NMC."

Koblerville school project moves forward

The Northern Marianas Housing Corp. attended the pre-proposal conference for the proposed middle school in Koblerville that will be funded by the Community Development Block Grant program.

NMHC planner and grant writer Jeannie P. Mafnas said the mandatory pre-proposal conference was conducted by Public School System at its office near Marianas High School last Nov. 28.

Mafnas went to the conference with assistant Jacob Muna and procurement officer Jocelyn Seman.

She said that less than 10 individuals from various firms attended the conference, which saw the participants asking standard questions involving the request for proposal for the A&E design for a gymnasium.

Mafnas noted that the closing date for the RFP is on Dec. 14, after which the evaluation of bids and the selection of the firm would be conducted.

Meanwhile, NMHC issued last Friday a request for proposal to conduct a performance

assessment of the agency's fiscal and accounting division by a CNMI-licensed certified public accountant firm.

A pre-proposal conference is slated for Dec. 17, Monday, at 9am at the NMHC conference room. Closing date for this RFP is at 10am on Jan. 7, 2013.

Board chair Marcie M. Tomokane said during Tuesday's meeting that the board approved the issuance of RFP during their October meeting. "This is long overdue," added Tomokane. (Clarissa V. David)

Free forum on USCIS' parole extension

The U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter, in collaboration with the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, will be holding a forum on the recent extension of parole for those with U.S. citizen immediate relatives, deferred status and CW, on Dec. 8, 2012, from 10am to 12pm, at the American Memorial Park Auditorium. David G.Gulick, USCIS District Director for Hawaii, Guam and CNMI, will be the speaker.

"The Filipino community is encouraged to submit im-

migration questions related to the above-mentioned topics by sending email to USP4GG Marianas chapter at usp4ggmarianaschapter@gmail.com some three to four days before the actual forum or at earliest possible time," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, chairperson of the USP4GG Marianas Chapter. "The public is cautiously advised that there is no fee in whatever form that will be collected from the participants just to be able to attend the forum. Admission is free and is on a first-come,

first-served basis."

USP4GG is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization based in New York led by its national chairperson, Loida Nicolas Lewis, national president Rodel Rodis and legal counsel/spokesperson Ted Laguatan whose mission is for the betterment of the life of Filipinos everywhere in the world and for the betterment of the Philippines.

For more information, call Dr. Celia Lamkin or Mar Masilungan, at 483-9440. *(PR)*

C

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

State Rehabilitation Council

Statewide Independent Living Council

P.O. BOX 501521, SAIPAN, MP 95950: TEL: (670) 322-6537/8 FAX: (670) 322-6536 TTY: (670) 322-6449; E-MAIL: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council & Statewide Independent Living Council will hold its FY'13 First Quarter Joint General Membership meeting on Thursday, December 06, 2012 at Giovanni's, Hyatt at 9:00 am - 2:00 pm.

AGENDA

- I. Welcome & Introduction
- II. Brief Highlight of SRC & SILC Mission & the Nature of our Joint Meeting
- III. Review & approval of Agenda
- IV. Review and adoption of last joint SRC/SILC meeting
- V. Accomplishment Reports
 - SILC Chairperson Steve Dutro
 - CIL Director Lydia Igitol
 - SRC Chairperson Isidro Seman
 - OVR Director Margarita Olopai-Taitano
 - OVR Success Stories
- VI. Mutual Projects & 2013 Council Activities
 - Identification of funding sources
 - Resource Plan
 - Community forums
 - Issues on Accessibility and accommodations of services
 - Partnership & Supported Employment
 - Independent Living in community based settings

VII. Announcements
VIII. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodations such as large print or sign language interpreters, are asked to call 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) two days before the meeting. For more clarification, please contact Elvira Seman at 322-6537 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY).

Sid Seman SRC Chairperson Steve Dutro SILC Chairperson



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE PROVISION OF GEOTHERMAL CONSULTING SERVICES

RFP13-GOV-024

Governor's Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos are requesting qualifications from qualified firms according to the requirements of N.M.I.A.C. § 70-30.3-210 to provide analysis and guidance in the examination of geothermal energy on the island of Saipan.

Selected firm must be able to perform required consulting services in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands ("CNMI") and will be required to: analyze existing geothermal data; develop a plan for test drilling to obtain further information; evaluate suitability of Commonwealth equipment for use in test drilling; evaluate drilling proposals; provide oversight on test drilling; and conduct analysis on results. Detailed information on required duties is provided in the Request for Proposals for Geothermal Consulting Services ("RFP").

The RFP is available and can be obtained from at Office of Capital Improvement - Juan Sablan Memorial Building - Capital Hill (670-664-2375). Submittals must follow the format identified in the RFP and comply with all requirements. Qualifications will be evaluated based on the factors shown in the table below.

Element Weight
Capacity of the firm and experience of the individuals
who would be assigned to the project
Proposed approach 30%

Award shall be made to the firm whose proposal is most advantageous to the government. All questions regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 20, 2012 (ChST) to the Office of Capital Improvement via fax to (670-664-2408). All proposals must be sealed and marked RFP13-GOV-024 Geothermal Consulting Services Proposal on the forms provided and include an original and four copies and must be marked as: "RFP13-GOV-024 Proposal for Provision of Geothermal Consulting Services;" and be submitted no later than 10:00 AM, Friday, January 18, 2013 (ChST) to:

Herman S. Sablan, Director Marianas Procurement & Supply - Lower Base P.O. Box 510008 CK Saipan, MP 96950

Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a notice of intent to bid (Notice of Intent to Bid"). Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. (Saipan Time) January 09, 2013, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and four copies of sealed proposal must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than January 18, 2013 (Saipan Time) and must be received no later than January 30, 2013 (Saipan Time).

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all submittals and bear all risk concerning delivery. For further information contact the Office of Capital Improvement 670-664-2375. All proposals become the property of the Commonwealth.

/s/Benigno R. Fitial

/s/Herman S. Sablan, Director Procurement & Supply Division

Man arrested for setting fire to Chalan Piao building

On Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012, at approximately 5:11pm, police, fire personnel, and Emergency Medical Services technicians responded to a structure fire at the Rainbow commercial building on Beach Road, Cha-

lan Piao, across the street from Bank of Guam, Chalan Piao.

The structure was already fully engulfed in fire and smoke. Police provided a perimeter safety zone and assisted Fire and EMS in evacuating people from the building and adjacent buildings.

DPS firefighters reported the fire to be under control at about 7:02pm. Patrol officers identified several witnesses who mentioned a suspect and suspicious person seen around the area

before and after the fire started. The suspect was described as a Palauan male in his mid 30s wearing a dark T-shirt, light colored short pants, with a black baseball cap. Some of the witnesses identified the suspect as Tebei Malaitau alias Teddy.

Police found the suspect nearby watching the fire and interviewed the suspect about his possible involvement with the fire incident. The suspect allegedly confessed to police that he started the fire.

At about 5:58pm, Malaitau, 34, was arrested for the charges of arson. He was transported to the Department of Corrections where he was booked and detained. The investigation on this case is ongoing.

The building itself is a commercial building with nine units. Seven of the units were damaged by the fire. Other assisting agencies include The Depart-Department of Environmental

Quality, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the American Red Cross, NMI Chapter. No ment of Homeland Security, the one was reported injured in this incident. (DPS)

EXAMPLE 1 COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Tinian Municipal Scholarship applications open

The Tinian Municipal Scholarship board would like to inform the general public that the 2013 spring semester, academic year 2012-2013 application is now available. Visit our office on the first floor of Villagomez Building, Tinian Mayor's Office. Applications will be provided upon request via tinianscholarship@gmail.com, or you may pick up a copy at the mayor's office reception desk. Applications and requirements must be submitted on or before Dec. 31, 2012. For more information, contact Ann Marie H. Crisostomo at (670) 433-2200. (PR)

UOG NCLEX review course orientation

Individuals interested in enrolling in the University of Guam's comprehensive NCLEX review course must attend the orientation on Dec. 14 at 10am in room 229, UOG Health Sciences Building, School of Nursing and Health Sciences, UOG campus.

Participants will learn about course content and eligibility requirements. For more information contact Karen Cruz at 735-2660 or kcruz@uguam.uog.edu. (UOG)



Hordes of shoppers crowd the aisles of Triple J Wholesale store, formerly Super Fresh Market in Chalan Kanoa, for its Super Christmas

Horde of shoppers descends on Triple J Super Christmas Sale

Triple J Wholesale store, formerly Super Fresh Market in Chalan Kanoa, opened its doors on Nov. 30 to shoppers anticipating its Super Christmas Sale. Triple J chair Robert H. Jones welcomed everyone as they entered to check K-Mart.

Buyers started to swell in numbers while shopping around the store to select from a variety of items ranging from television and radio sets, household and kitchen appliances, to living room and bedroom items. As new customers came in, others started to make a queue to the cashier lane as carts filled with items.

By midday, the store shelves stocked with fast moving items started to be emptied. One of the cashier, Karen, said that many were buying the toaster oven, hand mixer, microwave, the newly arrived items from DVD home theater, many LCD TVs, folding bed, 48 qt. cooler, pogo stick, to name a few. Cashier Doreen received suggestions for the store to add items like kids' toys, towels, bed sheets and pillows, and comforters. Another customer, Ruby Gozon, said she was so happy she doesn't need to fly to Guam because K-Mart items are they pushed or carried their now available on Saipan. (PR)



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM - OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR **COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

ADDENDUM NO. 1 12/05/2012 **RFP13-GOV-021** LANDFILL EQUIPMENT

The previously advertised notice, Request For Proposals ("RFP") for the "Landfill Equipment, Tinian and Rota" has been amended. The specific amendment is to extend proposal submission from 2:00 p.m., December 06, 2012 to 10:30 a.m. January 22, 2013 Saipan Time or forty five (45) calendar days.

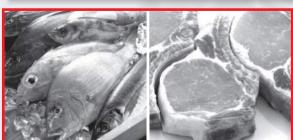
All other elements of the RFP remain as originally provided. For further information on this project, please contact the Capital Improvement Office, during working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Monday through Friday, except holidays) or by contacting Mr. Carl Castro, Contracting Officer Technical Representative at (670)664-2375 or by fax at (670)664-2408.











FRESH LOCAL PORK, FISH, **VEGETABLES AND FRUITS.** LIVE! Tilapia & Shrimp



■ LOCAL CAFÉ WITH SPECIAL **FOOD VARIETIES.**



CHRISTMAS DECORS... **NOW AVAILABLE!** 30% OFF

DEPARTMENT STORE ITEMS... 15%-50% OFF: Home & Office Furniture, House Items, Carpets, Fabrics, Toys & Gift Items, Cushion & Mattress Foam, Etc. ON SALE!

HARDWARE: G.I. Pipe, Commercial type of Roofing Tin

OPEN: MONDAYS TO SATURDAYS (6:00 am - 11:00 pm) • SUNDAYS (8:00 am - 10:00 pm)

Navy dentists bring smiles to Tinian

By LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

TINIAN, Northern Mariana Islands—U.S. Navy dental technicians provided dental assistance to the local Tinian community on Dec. 3 during Exercise Forager Fury 2012.

The dental technicians saw numerous patients and performed a wide range of procedures in just one day.

"Today we conducted 13 emergency exams, five cleanings, five baby teeth extractions, 11 adult teeth extractions and one incision and drainage," said Lt. Cmdr. Michael Flannery, a general dentist with 11th Dental Company, 3rd Dental Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

After only a couple days of work, the impact on the local community can already be seen.

"It's really great when the [military comes out and provides services like this, because the services that they provide are hard to come by on little islands like this," said Joseph R. Santos, a local firefighter and emergency medical technician. "It is vital to the community, vital to the island,



U.S. MARINE CORPS/LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK Victoria Sablan, 9, receives dental care from Seaman Jeffrey M. Ker at the Tinian Health Center Dec.3. Sablan's twin brother, Victor, also received dental care in an adjacent room at the same time. Kerr is an oral surgical technician for 11th Dental Company, 3rd Dental Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeand vital to the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas."

The dentists have seen a wide variety of issues, some more common than others.

"By far the biggest issues are cavities and loose teeth that the bone has resorbed and it can be very discomforting for the patient," said Flannery. "Some of these patients feel immediate relief after removing a tooth that has broken down so severely that it caused a real issue in their daily living."

Tinian has proven itself to not only be a great location for Marines to train, but also a location that benefits the local community every time they return.

"Hopefully the Marines can come back and help us again because it is really beneficial to us and our children who need better care at their young age," said Rudeinn Sablan, father of 9-year-old twins, Victor and Victoria, who both received dental care.

Medical and dental care will be provided by Navy personnel throughout the duration of the exercise, which is scheduled to conclude Dec. 19.

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Dec. 5, 2001

House finance panel chief known tomorrow

The chairmanship of the powerful House Committee on Ways and Means hangs fire until tomorrow, when GOP leaders in the House of Representatives expect to come out with the complete list of committee assignments. According to incoming House Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider, he and his colleagues plan to come out on Thursday with the complete listing of those who will assume the chairmanship of the different committees in the lower chamber. The chairmanship of the ways and means committee has been beset with acrimony, after Reps. William S. Torres and Stanley T. Torres both expressed their desire to head the panel.

Cing to head Senate credentials panel

Senate leaders of the incoming 13th Legislature have chosen Sen. David M. Cing to chair the credentials committee that would be tasked to review all the qualifications of the incoming senators before they are sworn in. Senate Floor Leader-elect Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano said they chose Cing to head the credentials committee during a Senate caucus held in Rota last Saturday. "As you know the credentials committee will only become active during the swearing in and it will have the duty of screening the members before they are sworn in," said Adriano. Only six senators were present during the caucus, including incoming Senator-elect Diego M. Songao. Senators Ramon S. Guerrero, Pedro P. Reyes and Thomas P. Villagomez were absent.

Dec. 5, 2002

Recoverable money pegged at \$6.93M

The CNMI government can potentially recover a total of \$6.93 million in public funds that have been identified in 26 audit reports as overpayments, improperly spent monies or land rentals that remain uncollected, according to a government report released yesterday. The Office of the Public Auditor's audit recommendations tracking report showed that, of the total recoverable amount, some \$1.19 million are monies that could be recovered through legal action by the Attorney General's Office. This amount was identified in 12 audit reports that have already been referred to the AGO. The remaining amount-\$5.73 million-is the total recoverable money identified in 14 audit reports, representing unpaid rentals of land leases, overpayments in professional service contracts, and improper use of public funds.

MPLA expresses doubts on reason for abolition

The Marianas Public Lands Authority is questioning the basis of a bill that seeks to abolish the autonomous agency and place it under the Executive Branch. MPLA Commissioner Henry Hofschneider said filing a legislative bill based on only one report was suspect. "Why the Legislature or a legislator has to act this way-abolishing an independent agency-based on one committee report?" House Bill 13-225, introduced by Saipan Rep. Gloria Cabrera, cited that the proposal was consistent with the recommendations raised by the 2001 transition subcommittee on MPLA. The subcommittee reportedly recommended the abolition of the agency following findings that the MPLA had allegedly not been complying with its mandate.

Dec. 5, 2003

Palacios flattered by Senate's action

When he learned that the Senate reintroduced as its own the Office of Federal Grants Assistance bill on Tuesday, the legislation's original author, House Rep. Arnold I. Palacios, admitted yesterday that he was initially "amused and amazed." But after some thought, Palacios said he wound up feeling "flattered and honored" that Sen. Joaquin G. Adriano believed in the bill enough to reintroduce it in the upper house. The legislation was passed by the five-member Senate majority as Senate Bill 13-160 during a Tinian session this week. Senate President Paul A. Manglona explained Tuesday that the Senate decided to reintroduce three original House bills to expedite passage.

Tenorio to recommend Ada as new APIL president

House Vice Speaker Manuel A. Tenorio, who is current president of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures, is poised to recommend Rep. Martin B. Ada to take over the organization's presidency when his term at the Legislature ends this January. Tenorio, who lost his bid for reelection in the Nov. 1, 2003 midterm polls, explained yesterday that the privilege to lead the APIL is not exclusive to the individual but the member entity selected to preside over the APIL leadership. Speaker Heinz S. Hofschneider previously appointed Tenorio, Ada and Rep. Frank Aldan to represent the CNMI Legislature in the regional association.

Dental supplies donated during Forager Fury

By LANCE CPL. J. GAGE KARWICK

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Matthew R.

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Doubravia the sonior medical

TINIAN, Northern Mariana Islands—The Tinian Health Clinic received a donation of dental supplies from the Ordot Dental clinic. located on Guam, Dec. 1 during Exercise Forager Fury 2012.

The supplies will play a vital role for medical and dental outreach programs during the exercise.

"I was in Guam as part of the advance party for Marine Aircraft Group 12 and I used that opportunity to arrange for us to donate our time here at the Tinian Health Clinic," said

Doubrava, the senior medical officer for MAG-12. 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, III Marine Expeditionary Force. "While I was there, I was introduced to the dentist that ran the practice at Ordot Dental Clinic and they offered up two dental chairs from their facility."

The Tinian Health Clinic required the new dental chairs to allow the Navy personnel to better assist the people of Tinian with their dental and medical needs.

"I flew to Tinian, spoke with the clinic director here, Mr. Cing, who expressed a need for a dental chair. So I called back to the Ordot clinic and told them we could use those chairs and any other supplies they would like to donate," said Doubrava. "Then I called the MAG-12 chaplain and she assisted me with moving the donations from Ordot to Anderson Air Force base on Guam where they had the equipment loaded onto a C-130 and flew it here."

In addition to the dental chairs, the Tinian Health Clinic also received a large amount of much needed supplies that were also donated from the Ordot Clinic.

"We just received a large shipment of much needed consumables, which include some paper towels and fluoride," said Lt. Cmdr. Michael Flannery, the general dentist with 11th Dental Company. "Not only can the hygiene appointments and cleanings be completed, but also those patients can receive a good dose of topical fluoride at the end of that treatment, which will definitely help."

Naval personnel will continue to provide dental and medical assistance to the people of Tinian throughout the duration of FF12, with the help of local dental clinics and their generous donations of time and equipment.



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPOR' P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Ports Authority hereby gives notice that a Special Meeting of the Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, December 6, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. in the CPA Conference Room, Second Floor, Captain George F. Fleming Building at the Port of Saipan.

The following items are on the agenda for the above-referenced meeting:

- PRELIMINARY MATTERS
 - 1. Call to Order 3. Adoption of Agenda
 - 2. Roll Call 4. Adoption of Minutes (August 24, 2012)

SPECIAL AGENDA ITEMS

- 1. Personnel Matter: Contract Renewals
- 2. File Storage Area Change Order No. 1
- 3. Tasi Tours Request Passenger Facility Charges
- 4. Appeals Committee Decision

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION
- V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items.

/s/ JOSE R. LIFOIFOI Chairman, Board of Directors December 4, 2012



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of Executive Director

INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-13-011
SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF MATERIALS FOR ISLAND WIDE WATERLINE REPAIRS, SAIPAN, CNMI

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), Office of the Executive Director, is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of metrials for island wide waterline repairs in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-13-011, supply and delivery of materials for island wide waterline repairs, Saipan, CNMI " to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Po. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on January 08, 2013, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bid shall be submitted on provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualifications should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on December 21, 2012 to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER Acting Executive Director

Search for missing plane near Maui suspended

HONOLULU—The Coast Guard has suspended the search 172S airplane that disappeared from radar while traveling from Maui to Molokai, Saturday night.

The determination to suspend the search was made at 3pm, Monday, pending further information.

"The decision to suspend a for a privately owned Cessna search is one of the hardest a commanding officer has to make," said Captain Joanna Nunan, Coast Guard Sector Honolulu commanding officer. "Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family and friends of Mr. Krall during

Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu received a report at 7pm Saturday that the airplane disappeared from radar approximately 2.5 miles north of Maui's North Shore.

The Cessna pilot, Jose Krall, is believed to have been alone

in the aircraft.

A Coast Guard MH-65 Dolphin helicopter crew from Air Station Barbers Point, the crew of the Coast Guard cutter Ahi, from Honolulu, and response boat crews from Coast Guard Station Maui searched areas between Maui and Molokai. An HC-130 Hercules airplane crew

searched Saturday night using an infrared sensor.

A debris field that appears to be from an aircraft was located approximately two miles north of Maui in the area that the airplane had disappeared from radar. Included among the debris is a landing gear wheel that could match the aircraft.

Maui Fire Department and Maui Police Department have conducted land searches without locating any signs of aircraft debris.

The Cessna 172S is a fourseat, single-engine, fixedwing aircraft.

The public is asked to report any discovered shoreline debris resembling aircraft to be reported to the Coast Guard by calling 808-842-2601. (USCG)



REUNION

Friends that originated from Saipan join for an evening of Christmas celebration in Vancouver, British Columbia on Dec. 1, 2012. Despite their busy schedules, they were able to gather with one another, enjoy each others' company, and feast.

Mariner adrift in Pacific awaits rescue

HONOLULU—A mariner in from the sailing vessel Makalii masted sailboat at 2:30am Mondistress is awaiting rescue after his sailing vessel was dismasted approximately 85 miles northwest of Palmyra Atoll Sunday.

Watchstanders in Coast Guard Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu received a Personal Locator Beacon alert

at 8pm Sunday.

An HC-130 Hercules airplane crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point was launched at 10pm Sunday to locate the vessels after attempts to contact the vessel were unsuccessful.

The aircrew located the dis-

day. The master, James Blackford, reported the vessel was also taking on water when his vessel was dismasted, but was now under control. He reported no injuries or medical concerns. The aircrew dropped a pump, radio, and a Self-Locating Datum Marker Buov. It was reported that Blackford has food and water.

An Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System ship, the Global Explorer, was diverted to assist Blackford. The crew of the Global Explorer is scheduled to rendezvous with the Makalii at approximately

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

"Don't worry about your future, I am sure you will have a bright one, don't worry about the past, you can't change it, don't worry about the present, I have not got one for you! Happy, happy birthday Garrie aka "Sweetie" ... Wishing you great happiness, a joy that never ends!" Greetings come from your friends.



Happy 3rd birthday to our sunshine, Jun Jun! Everyday with you is a blessing and we cherish every moment. May you have many more wonderful and fun days to come and may God bless you today and always. We love you to the moon and back. Love you always, from your entire family.



Happy sweet and maybe sour birthday to Jesus Joaquin Lizama Santos B.K.A Sexy Sus. We wish we were there to celebrate with you brother. We love you! Greetings come from Ninja, Pepper, Tinie, and Craig. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Happy birthday cake for Kelome Jesse Savea Deleon Guerrero! God bless our chocolate loving, chick chock gun playing, chuga chuga choo choo driving Big Boy. We love you forever! Love Jeselle and JoDanny Boy. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Belated happy birthday to Estella Wabol Kaipat! Wishing you the most blessed one ever! Enjoy and bula love to you from your WIC family, especially the buttercup crew. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055 Phone: (670) 237-6500/1 Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE FOR THE LOADING BRIDGES PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-0014-12

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed proposals for the Preventive Maintenance for the Loading Bridges of the International Airport on the Island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The scope of work entails providing monthly maintenance services for the loading bridges for a period of two (2) years as detailed in the Scope of Work. The proposal package which includes the scope of work and evaluation factors will be available at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, 2nd Floor of the Arrival Building on Wednesday, November 28, 2012. Proposers must submit all required documents listed in the scope of work. All responses to the RFP shall take into account any and all costs that will be charged to the proposer awarded the contract for this

All proposals shall be sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Preventive Maintenance for the Loading Bridges. One (1) original and two (2) copies of the proposal must be submitted no later than 2:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2012, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport

All proposals will be evaluated on the following factors: (1) financial resources (2) price, (3) technical experience, and (4)

Proposer will be required to obtain insurance policies based on CPA's requirements. Copies of the insurance requirements may be obtained with the scope of work at the office of the Executive Director.

A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held at the CPA Conference Room, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, and Departure Building at 10:00 a.m., December 14, 2012, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions must be in writing and faxed to the Executive Director's Office at (670)234-5962 or via email at cpa.admin@pticom.com at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-proposal conference.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request For Proposals: or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding proposal rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA Further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best

CPA assumes no responsibilities in any act of omission on the part of offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of offeror's preparation of the proposal or supply under the contract. This RFP does not commit CPA to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or

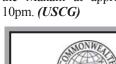
Offeror will be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws. This RFP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CPA Procurement Regulations

All proposals shall become the property of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Proposals received after the aforementioned date

Date: 11/27/2012

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO **Executive Director**



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962 E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05-2012

Opening date: December 5, 2012 Closing date: December 19, 2012

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:

- (1) Custodial/Maintenance-I (Rota)
- General Maintenance-III (Saipan)
- ARFF Trainee (Saipan)
- Ports Police/ARFF Trainee (Tinian)
- Staff Attorney
- (1) Property Specialist (Saipan)
- (1) Vessel Traffic Controller (Port of Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than 4:30p.m., December 19, 2012.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA Human Resources by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

> /s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO **Executive Director**

10 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Opinion



Published daily at 2/F JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

> Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

> > MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Safe peanut butter, and beyond

he bins of peanuts outside were uncovered, food safety inspectors reported, allowing birds to do on them what birds do. Employees failed to wash their hands regularly or to practice other basic hygiene. Salmonella was found in dozens of locations throughout the plant, which had shipped jars of peanut butter even though its own tests showed they were tainted with the potentially deadly bacteria. After more than 40 people were sickened, the plant closed voluntarily in September and the company's products were recalled. And yet Sunland Inc. announced plans to reopen the New Mexico facility, which sold organic peanut butter to Trader Joe's and other markets.

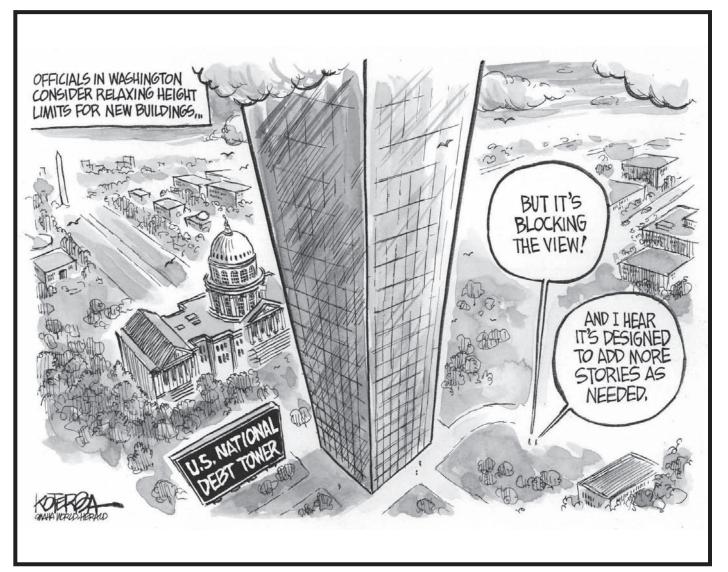
Citing the conditions at Sunland as well as its history of health violations, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration put at least a temporary hold on those plans Monday, suspending operations at the plant and exercising for the first time its new authority to shut down potentially dangerous food facilities. Luckily for consumers, this was made possible by the Food Safety Modernization Act, signed into law nearly two years ago—and long overdue even then. But other, much more sweeping changes required by the law haven't yet been implemented.

The law doesn't simply expand the FDA's authority; it calls for an overhaul of food safety enforcement that relies more on prevention than on punishment of errant food producers. Foreign companies, whose products make up an ever-larger share of domestic food consumption, will be required to show that their plants meet U.S. standards, and the FDA will form partnerships with food safety agencies in those countries to bolster its global inspection reach. Domestic food businesses will be required to develop their own science-based safety programs, subject to FDA approval, and inspections will be stepped up at plants that handle foods deemed to be at higher risk for food poisoning, such as leafy greens or salads containing mayonnaise.

Provisional regulations were supposed to be released a year after the law was signed—in January—but that hasn't happened. The FDA did its job, delivering the new regulations to the Office of Management and Budget in late 2011. But the OMB hasn't moved them forward. Some theorize that this was a political decision by the Obama administration, to avoid implementing sweeping regulations during a campaign marked by Republican complaints of over-regulation (though the bill passed Congress with significant Republican support).

The FDA's decisive move to keep the Sunland plant from reopening shows how necessary the new law was. Surely one of the most important regulatory missions of government should be assuring the safety of what we eat. Implementation of the rest of the law is past due.

©2012 Los Angeles Times



Buenos dias, state No. 51?

magine if you had U.S. citizenship, a U.S. passport, and the right to die in combat as a U.S. soldier—but no right to vote in presidential elections and no voting representation in Congress. Sounds nuts, I know. But that's the deal if you live on the island of Puerto Rico. And that's basically been the deal since 1917.

Which is why Puerto Rico should become our 51st state. It's much bigger than Delaware; it has more people than Alaska and Hawaii combined (as Casey Stengel would say, you can look it up); and, earlier this month, its citizens appeared to endorse statehood for the first time. If Congress would just OK the idea and President Obama would scratch his signature on it, we could redo the American flag.

Of course, it's not nearly that simple. Compared with granting statehood, the fiscal cliff is a walk in the park.

For starters, Congress has enough trouble running the Union we already have. It can barely navigate its own Byzantine politics, much less fathom Puerto Rico's. Indeed, the results of the island's statehood referendum on Nov. 6—one of the most overlooked stories of this election—had all the simplicity of a Rubik's Cube.

It was a two-part process. First, voters were asked whether they approve or disapprove of the island's "present form of territorial status," as a self-ruling commonwealth that elects its own governor and legislature. Fifty-four percent disapproved.

Then they were asked to choose an alternative arrangement: U.S. statehood, independent nation, or something called "sovereign free associated state." Of those who voted on that question, 61 percent went with statehood.

The hitch, however, is that 470,000 voters didn't vote on that question; they left that part of the ballot blank. So even though state-hood passed, and sentiment for statehood was clearly stronger than in all previous referenda, it would appear that the island's citizenry is not exactly eager for it—especially when you consider that in the same election, the pro-statehood governor was beaten by his antistatehood challenger.

On the other hand, the pro-statehood "resident commissioner"—the guy who represents the island on Capitol Hill—was reelected. He's allowed to vote in House committees and can give speeches on the House floor. But he's barred from voting on the floor. I'm not sure who came up with these rules, but Joseph Heller of Catch-22 fame would have approved.

Anyway, the referendum results were nebulous enough to let our leaders off the hook. The truth is that neither President Obama nor the Republicans in Congress are anxious to move the ball on this issue. Each side has its own reasons to sustain the status quo.

Obama actually considered the question. Last year, a presidential task force concluded that the president and Congress should support "any fair, transparent, and swift effort that is consistent

By DICK POLMAN

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Dick Polman is a columnist for the Philadelphia Inquirer. Readers may write to him at: Philadelphia Inquirer, P.O. Box 8263, Philadelphia, Pa. 19101, or by email at dpolman@phillynews.com; blog: hhttp://www.dickpolman.blogspot.com.



with and reflects the will of the people of Puerto Rico" should a referendum produce "a clear result." Note the wiggle room: It's easy to argue that this month's 61 percent statehood vote was not a clear result.

For Obama and the Democrats, statehood would open a can of worms. The island's poverty rate is 45 percent, which means the feds would have to pump in a lot of new money (insufficiently offset by added income-tax revenue from the island) at a time when Democrats are under pressure to cut entitlements.

Plus, the politics would be thorny. Statehood could give Puerto Rico five or six House members. Given how Puerto Ricans typically vote, these representatives would probably be Democrats. So it's hard to believe that John Boehner's GOP would sign off on statehood unless Democrats agree to give up seats elsewhere. (Good luck with that.) Democrats would probably insist that the GOP instead agree to simply expand the House membership by five or six seats. (Again, good luck.)

The addition of two Senate seats would be nonnegotiable. And they would likely be filled by Democrats as well. Can you imagine the Republicans agreeing to that? Given their propensity for nominating extremist candidates who say weird stuff about rape, they can't even compete effectively for the Senate seats we already have.

This is why, deep down, Republicans would be happy if the prospect of Puerto Rican statehood faded away forever. If they say yes to it, they'll lose ground in Congress and give Democrats another blue state in presidential elections. But if they say no, they'll further alienate stateside Hispanics, 71 percent of whom backed Obama. As Stephen Colbert quipped the other night, two of the most terrifying words for Republicans are "buenos dias."

These are the kinds of issues that make congressional heads hurt. They'd rather wrangle over fetal personhood and the price of duck stamps than ponder an expansion of the Union.

So there's no need to take down the flag and get out the needle and thread anytime soon. And how would the stars be realigned anyway? That question alone could set Twitter aflame for years.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUM-BER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be

trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Meeting revered leaders

spent close to a decade with the Congress of Micronesia, led and crowned by the best minds throughout the region. It's a stint in professional development where I learned a stronger sense of humility listening to the sharpest intellectuals discuss substantive issues on their merit.

The late FSM President Tosiwo Nakayama and Republic of the Marshalls President Amata Kabua shared some commonalities in their traits. Both are very humble, soft-spoken, intellectually sharp, similarly poetic in their expressions, and natural

Whenever he's home, Nakayama goes line fishing in the lagoon beginning at sunset and returns to shore before midnight. Perhaps he uses the quiet moments on the boat listening to the sound of waves gently crashing against his boat while contemplating what lies ahead.

Kabua reads a lot and would strum his ukelele singing before the night is over. It's between heavy issues in his book and the soothing sounds of melodic ballads and soft four strings where he relaxes and gathers his strength planning ahead to another exciting day. Both are also spiritual people.

The two pillars have had their share of nation building with powerful inspiration and visions of prosperous island nations. Equally, they know that their proverbial role is just the first step in that thousand-mile journey. But they leave behind an indelible mark in the minds of their people: they've worked with all their might to improve their living conditions.

Yes they've sailed their canoes to the stars upstairs, ever humble at the opportunity to have helped move the lot of their people forward. Though they were people of substance, they went about their work with an ultra-sense of integrity, humility, and never lost sight of what's known in the study of leadership as True North. They were gigantic icons to emulate and learn from. I still take a glimpse at their history for refreshers on leadership.

Leadership ascendancy

Since time immemorial until the early '60s, leadership on the islands was selected by natural ascendancy, meaning it's the community that grants it with trust and confidence.

These were German—or Japanese-educated folks with razor sharp intellect and visionaries with a simple conviction: lead by ascertaining the fair disposition of issues affecting the livelihood of the people they represent as pillars of their community. No room for wild folly and not during the formative years of democracy on the islands.

The names were numerous but the two that stood up above the rest were the late Ignacio M. Benavente and Elias P. Sablan. Both had charisma, integrity, and cultivated the respect of their people as public servants. Benavente was a spiritual and devout Catholic. Sablan was a natural in politics. He and Benavente trail-blazed similar careers in government. Both headed the judiciary, too.

So what's in the two leaders that made them highly revered by our people? It was their intellect, integrity, mindfulness, and keeping their True North as leaders. Both were people-oriented and it matters to them that the product of their disposition elevates the lot of their people to the fertile ground of prosperity.

Mr. Vicente N. Santos immediately dovetailed the careers of the two pillars. He held the presidency of the Legislature for the longest time. He was instrumental in setting up the negotiations of the NMI and U.S. in what culminated as the Covenant Agreement. He was also an excellent teacher for many years before entering politics.

The list also include Herman Q. Guerrero, Herman R. Guerrero, the late brothers Jesus and Jose P. Mafnas, Benjamin T. Manglona, Jose R. Dela Cruz, Oscar C. Rasa, Olympio T. Borja, Pedro P. Tenorio, Pedro A. Tenorio, Edward DLG. Pangelinan, Joaquin I. Pangelinan, Francisco C. Ada, Joaquin P. Villanueva, and Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero. These were powerful political warriors of yester-years

The general public formed images of the situations and they created

stories in their minds. People use words to create the images (mnemon-

ic) that they perceived as explanation and applicable to the published

outlines by the printed media. Words produce images and precision

of meanings is internalized by the individual. Imaging is the root of

public opinion, and what information made viral by the media, if left

Words that portray a good, just, and fair employer or appointing

authority would include some general words such as: humane, kind,

merciful, good, nice, superior, charitable, compassionate, considerate, feeling, gentle, kind, sympathetic, thoughtful, uncruel, giving,

nice, benign, clean, gentle, moral, ethical, purposeful. Picturing the

On the other side of these images, one would find an object or sub-

ject and in this particular case an "ogre." And, again one would initiate

ent, irrational, loathsome, low, repulsive, swinish, unclean, vile, evil,

images of these adjectives in our mind relates to the situations.

unattended and absent logical explanation, is disastrous.

By JOHN DELROSARIO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



who stood by their conviction to carve a future for these isles.

Meeting the best

As the NMI's representative at the SPC and ESCAP for several years, I've met highly educated and intelligent ambassadors and representatives of governments and administrations. Each is a superb intellectual whose individual best or human side I get to see in casual gatherings.

Indeed, I've gone north and south of the equator and nearby Japan and Asia, blessed with the opportunity to have met some of the best leaders, i.e., former Japan Prime Minister Ohira and Nakasone. I'm especially appreciative of their sense of humor that shows the human side of their being, however political icons they may be at home.

There's one who quoted directly from the Bible as he speaks, lowering the boom on my boastful thought that I was a good Christian. The other explains complex issues, simplifying them and deferring to cultural legends to convey his message.

Their thoughtful expressions depict wisdom that only hail from the wise man of the village. Yep! It was one learning experience for this grasshopper! What journey beyond Mili and Tobi (Republics of the Marshalls and Belau). It was one treasured golden journey too! It sadly brings into greater focus the question: Where did we commit disconnection with reality as to lose our True North? This may even require pathological digging if only to understand the seeming slippery slope where today's powerful few ignored that their journey only comes with the "consent of the governed." A Saina!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bad decisions

Most people in the CNMI following the story in the local newspapers about the fate of Mr. Walter Manglona's employment was a basket case of contemplation, a shock and awe if you will to most. The other case of similar nature at the Tinian Senior Citizen Center was a case in point that kept us still talking about what should be the most effective cause of action available to the appointing authority of these positions and employees. Here is the irony: In one case the employee who was revered by most received an adverse action by the appointing authority. The other case involved a new employee who was doubted by the congregation received the appointing authority's overwhelming approval.

The actions taken by the appointing authority have lawful finality in that someone at the end of the process was the recipient of the official and lawful personnel action. The anomalies would never be felt except by the one wronged by illogical personnel action. But in the minds of the general public, snippets of information may form the basis for public opinion on the matter. What the newspapers published were the source of the information and what follows is a tidal wave of public opinion that is impossible to stop. The appointing authority failed to give the truthful details and that was the

the internalized process of imaging what this subject is all about. Our case in point manifests itself in imaging words such as: cruel, perverted, brutal, fiendish, ruthless, abominable, base, bestial, boorish, degraded, depraved, disgusting, ferine, foul, gross, inhuman, pruri-

> later want to expunge? This is just double work. And why, after over two decades in elected office, has the good representative suddenly had this epiphany? And finally, does he think there is a chance in the world that this bill will go anywhere in the final month of a lame duck Legislature during the holiday month of December?

> But, maybe my questions are actually answered in the text of the proposed bill, which states that "Certain vehicles change their factory installed head lights and tail lights with brightly colored lights which causes confusion." Perhaps Rep. Torres has been gazing at too many bright car lights. Sunglasses might help alleviate his confusion.

> Stanley, the voters have spoken, it's over. Go to your farm and spend your time cultivating your favorite crops.

Herminia M. Fusco Capitol Hill, Saipan

malevolent, hellish, merciless, relentless, revengeful, ruthless, grim, harsh, ironfisted, obdurate, severe, remorseless, stern, vicious, vindictive, truculent, insensitive, malicious, mean, savage, nasty, spiteful, uncaring, uncharitable, thoughtless, infernal, nefarious, wicked, ogreish, and others like these. As you can see, your readers are free to form these images in their minds, unless the person or official who initiated the personnel action to effectuate a process that totally misses the darling of the public opinion for sufficiency of sound and logical conclusion. And, your readers should also add to this list of adjectives, adverbs, and nouns so we can start communicating with government officials who are attracted to the cost of bad decisions.

Francisco R. Agulto Kannat Tabla, Saipan

Be open minded

Yes, I agree that the whole deal with this \$80 million is not done properly and should be reviewed and criticize strongly. However, the fact remains that both the CNMI's cargo and passenger service is extremely poor. Not just in that area but also in the area of communication and the IT services. For example, a company named One Economy that was tasked to do research on the present communication system with respect to Internet connectivity mentioned that customers here in the CNMI pay too high a price for Internet services for a very poor service.

Well, just like in the area of passenger and cargo service here in the CNMI, we do pay too high a price for moving both passengers and cargo. That is a fact. Now, do we need a passenger ferry service? Yes of course. A study recently confirmed the need for a ferry service but ports need to be improved to handle that service. An economist named William Stewart recommended the ferry service that can handle both passenger, cargo, and vehicles as a solution to our economic problems. Let's not jump to conclusions. The way things are done is wrong. But, what is being looked at is not necessarily wrong. Be open minded.

Frank Atalig Sinapalo 1, Rota

The voters have spoken I understand that Rep. Stanley Torres has introduced Bill 17-324,

entitled "The CNMI Public Peace, Safety, and Morals Act of 2012." Why is it that after spending years obsessing about marijuana and casinos our esteemed representative is now concerned about other people's morals? Why is it that Rep. Torres, after proposing a bill that would allow anyone who is so inclined to run around blasting away with 12-gauge shotguns, is now concerned about public peace? And why is it that Rep. Torres, who sees zoning as an unnecessary intrusion into our lives, now wants to tell everyone else what kind of lights they can have on their cars? And, do you mean to tell me that graffiti is currently legal? That there are no laws on the books already covering vandalism and malicious mischief? And why does Rep. Torres want to stigmatize these various evil-doers? He wanted to expunge criminal records of people convicted of crimes. Why create more laws that will result in more criminal offenses that he would **12** WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.

▲88° ▼77°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph

▲89° ▼77°

Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼77°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼77°



Partly cloudy with isolated showers.

▲89° ▼77°

Yesterday's Satellite Image **Micronesia**



Arou	nd The Glo	be	
Auckland	Showers	▲ 69	▼ 65
Beijing	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 30	▼17
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68	▼55
Honolulu	Showers	▲ 80	▼ 70
London	Cloudy	▲ 43	₹30
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 54
Manila	Thundershowers	s ≜ 86	₹79
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76	▼ 52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79	▼ 65
New York	Showers	▲ 52	▼31
Osaka	Sunny	▲ 47	▼39
Paris	Cloudy	▲ 39	▼ 33
Pusan	Sunny	4 44	▼32
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 51	▼36
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 49	▼38
San Francisco	Rain	▲ 64	▼57
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 30	▼16
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 57	▼ 38

Tides								
Saipan Ha	rbor							
5:33 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet					
12:44 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet					
7:03 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet					
11:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet					

Washington, DC Showers ▲ 56 ▼35

M		AGF	RIHAN	V	VAKE
		GUA	IPAN M		
1	KORO	YAP R	СНИПК	The state of the s	MAJURO
				POHNIPEI KOSRAE	MASONO
120	130	140	150	160	170

PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A cold front between Minami Tori Shima and Iwo To island extends from about 25N151E to 18N130E. Scattered showers are found along and up to 80 miles north of the front. Low-level convergence east of Typhoon Bopha and south of Koror is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms between the equator and 5N from 130E to 135E. Convergent east winds are triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Yap and Guam and north of Chuuk within 100 miles of a line from 6N139E to 10N145E to 7N157E south of this line. Convergent southeast winds are producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between the equator and 8N from 142E to 152E. A surface trough runs from EQ160E to 9N162E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found around Pohnpei and Kosrae within 275 miles of the trough axis.

			THE RESERVE OF THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN 2 IS NOT	with Contract to the Contract	Carrier Street		TANKS WILLIAM TO SERVICE STATE OF THE SERVICE STATE	
Ti	des		Su	nrise/Suns	ise/Sunset Moonrise/Moonset			
arbor			Today	6:29 AM	5:46 PM	Today	11:15 PM	11:08 AM
Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet	Thursday	6:30 AM	5:46 PM	Thursday		11:49 AM
Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet	Friday	6:31 AM	5:46 PM	Friday	12:07 AM	12:30 PM
Today	Low Tide:	1.0 Feet	Saturday	6:31 AM	5:47 PM	Saturday	12:59 AM	1:13 PM
Today	High Tide:	1.4 Feet	Sunday	6:32 AM	5:47 PM	Sunday	1:55 AM	1:58 PM
	Today Today Today	Today Low Tide: Today High Tide: Today Low Tide:	Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet	Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Thursday Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Friday Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet Saturday	Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Thursday 6:30 AM Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Friday 6:31 AM Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet Saturday 6:31 AM	Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Thursday 6:30 AM 5:46 PM Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Friday 6:31 AM 5:46 PM Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet Saturday 6:31 AM 5:47 PM	Today 6:29 AM 5:46 PM Today Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Thursday 6:30 AM 5:46 PM Thursday Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Friday 6:31 AM 5:46 PM Friday Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet Saturday 6:31 AM 5:47 PM Saturday	Today Low Tide: 0.1 Feet Thursday 6:30 AM 5:46 PM Today 11:15 PM Today High Tide: 1.9 Feet Friday 6:31 AM 5:46 PM Friday 12:07 AM Today Low Tide: 1.0 Feet Saturday 6:31 AM 5:47 PM Saturday 12:59 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The Saipan Tribune accepts for FREE publication the following

PICTURES ■ ISLAND SNAPSHOTS

- Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones,
- accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings are other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRÁVELOGUE** Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

■ COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organiza tions, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May

include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the Saipan Tribune to publish the pictures. \blacksquare Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of
- 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months. ■ For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

■ Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number

■ Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or iavvee valleiera@saipantribune.com
- Fax: (670) 235-3740

Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

■ Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950 ■ Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center,

To check if contributions are i 6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions the date of publication size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The Saipan Tribune will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.

 For Travelogue, the Saipan Tribune reserves the right
- to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOV. 21, 2012

DE	PAR	TUR	ES		ARE	RIVAL	.5
SAIPAN-GUA	M (GUM)		GUAM (GUM))-SAIPAI	1	
UA5070	4:35am	5:25am	2, 4, 6, 7	UA 5069	2:45am	3:35am	2, 4, 6, 7
UA5062	4:40am	5:30am	1, 3, 5	UA5071	7:05am	7:55am	Daily
UA5068	8:25am	9:15am	Daily	UA5073	9:50am	10:40am	Daily
UA5074	11:10am	12:00pm		UA5075	1:45pm	2:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5076		4:00pm	Daily	UA5077	,	6:25pm	Daily
UA5078		7:45pm	Daily	UA5079	,	9:10pm	Daily
UA5072	,	10:35pm	Daily	ONOUT	o.copiii	7.10pm	buny
SAIPAN-NAR	ITA (NR	T)		NARITA (NR	T)-SAIPA	N	
DL287		8:40am	Daily	DL298		3:00pm	Daily
DL297		7:20pm	Daily	DL288		1:15am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-PUS	AN (BUS	S)		PUSAN (BUS	S)-SAIPA	N	
0Z608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 6, 7	0Z607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 5, 6
0Z608	3:30am	6:40am	3	0Z607	,	2:25am+1	
SAIPAN-SEO	UL (ICN))		SEOUL (ICN)	-SAIPAN	l	
0Z606		6:00am	1	0Z603		2:20pm	Daily
0Z606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	0Z605		1:00am+1	7
0Z604	3:20pm	7:10pm	Daily	0Z605	,	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
SAIPAN-SHA	NGHAI (PVG)		SHANGHAI (PVG)-SA	IPAN	
3U8648		8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			5:00am+1	3. 4. 6. 7
	0.100	0	, ,, ,, ,				0, 1, 0, 1
SAIPAN-BEIJ	IING (PE	K)		BEIJING (PE	K)-SAIP	AN	
MU7108	2:50am	5:55am	1, 3, 5	MU7107	6:30pm	1:50am+1	2, 4, 7
SAIPAN-GUA	NZHOU	(CAN)		GUANZHOU (
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-VLAI	DIVOSTO	K (VVO)		VLADIVOSTO	K (VVO)	-SAIPAN	
VLK1734	2:00am	8:15am	5 every other week	VLK1733	8:00pm	12:05am+1	4 every other weel
SAIPAN-MAN	IILA (MN	IL)		MANILA (MN	IL)-SAIP	AN	
0Z606/701	2:10am	11:15am	1	0Z704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	Daily via I
0Z606/701	2:40am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	DL172/288		1:15am+1	Daily via N
UA5070/191		9:55am	3, 6 via GUM	UA190/5077		6:25pm	3, 6 via GU
DL287/173	6:00am	10:20pm	Daily via NRT	UA190/5079		9:10pm	3, 6 via GU
UA5076/183		9:25pm	2, 5 via	UA702/605		1:00am+1	7 via ICN
	·	·	GUM	0Z702/605	,	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
UA5076/183	3:10pm	9:45pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	PR110/UA5071	10:10pm	8:00am+1	via ICN 1, 3, 5, 6, 7
0Z604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN				via GUM
UA5072/PR111	9:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	UA184/5071	10:55pm	7:55am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
			via GUM	UA184/5071	11:59pm	7:55am+1	via GUM 2, 5 via GU
SAIPAN-HON	C KUNG	(HKG)		HONG KONG	(HRG)-	RAIPAN	
0Z606/721		11:50am	1 via ICN	0Z746/603		2:20pm	Daily via I
02606/721		11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	02724/605		2.20pm 1:00am+1	7 via ICN
02000/121	L.4VdIII	II.JVdIII	2, 3, 4, 3, 6, 1 via ICN	02724/605	,	1:30am+1	
IIAE074 <i>h</i> 47	2.10	10.20		02124/003	ı.Jupill	ı.JUallı ⁺ í	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
UA5076/147 0Z604/749	,	10:30pm 11:20pm	1, 5 via GUM Daily via ICN	UA180/5073	11,00,	10:40am+1	via ICN

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure: ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival, The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA Fr	equency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily	THE IEU	10.00	10.10	Dany
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
Saipan-Rota	10.20	10.10	bully	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
Rota-Guam			·	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
				FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	"
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily				Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

NMI CRIME **STOPPERS**

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone ■ *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 13 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Business

GOP issues a new 'fiscal cliff' offer to Obama

WASHINGTON (AP)—House Republicans put forth a \$2.2 trillion "fiscal cliff" counteroffer to President Barack Obama on Monday, calling for raising the eligibility age for Medicare, lowering cost-of-living hikes for Social Security benefits and bringing in \$800 billion in higher tax revenue—but not raising rates for the wealthy.

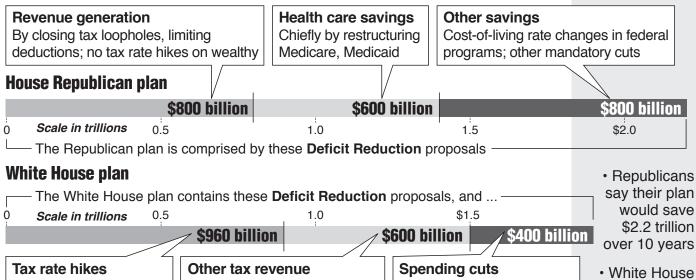
The White House declared the Republicans still weren't ready to "get serious" and again vowed tax rate increases will be in any measure Obama signs to prevent the government from the cliff's automatic tax hikes and sharp spending cuts. Administration officials also hardened their insistence that Obama is willing to take the nation over the cliff rather than give in to Republicans and extend the tax cuts for upper-income earners.

With the clock ticking toward the year-end deadline, House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, and other Republicans said they were proposing a "reasonable solution" for negotiations that Boehner says have been going nowhere. Monday's proposal came in response to Obama's plan last week to raise taxes by \$1.6 trillion over the coming decade but largely exempt Medicare and Social Security from budget cuts.

Though the GOP plan proposes to raise \$800 billion in higher tax revenue over the same 10 years, it would keep the Bushera tax cuts-including those for wealthier earners targeted by Obama—in place for now. Dismissing the idea of raising any tax rates, the Republicans said the new revenue would come A pair of starkly different plans

House Republicans sent President Barack Obama a plan to avoid the potential year-end fiscal crisis, but the plan differs strongly from the one the White House has proposed. The House plan would generate \$800 billion of revenue through tax reform, but would not raise taxes on the wealthy. The guts of each plan:

 Republican plan includes reductions in the very tax rates Democrats seek to raise, on the wealthy



... at least \$287 billion in new stimulus and other spending, on items like extension of the payroll tax cut and unemployment insurance

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, AP, U.S. Congress

Elmination of some deductions

from closing loopholes and deductions while lowering rates.

On wealthiest Americans

Boehner called that a "credible plan" and said he hoped the administration would "respond in a timely and responsible way." The offer came after the administration urged Republicans to detail their proposal to cut popular benefit programs like Medicare, Social Security and Medicaid.

The White House complained the latest offer was still short on details about what loopholes eliminated, and it insisted that any compromise include higher tax rates for upper-income earners.

Asked directly whether the country would go over the cliff unless GOP lawmakers backed down, administration officials said yes. Officials said they remained hopeful that scenario could be avoided, saying the president continues to believe that going over the cliff would be damaging to the economy. And they signaled that Obama wouldn't insist on bringing the would be closed or deductions top tax rate all the way back

to the 39.6 percent rates of the Clinton era. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about internal White House deliberations.

Graphic: Robert Dorrell

Some from health programs

"Until the Republicans in Congress are willing to get serious about asking the wealthiest to pay slightly higher tax rates, we won't be able to achieve a significant, balanced approach to reduce our deficit our nation needs," White House Communications Director Dan Pfeiffer said in a statement.

Boehner saw the situation as just the reverse.

says its plan

would save

\$1.6 trillion

© 2012 MCT

"After the election I offered to speed this up by putting revenue on the table and unfortunately the White House responded with their la-la land offer that couldn't pass the House, couldn't pass the Senate and it was basically the president's budget from last February," he said Monday.

The GOP proposal itself revives a host of ideas from failed talks with Obama in the summer of 2011. Then, Obama was willing to discuss politically risky ideas such as raising the eligibility age for Medicare, implementing a new inflation adjustment for

Social Security cost-of-living adjustments and requiring wealthier Medicare recipients to pay more for their benefits.

Monday's Republican plan contains few specific and anticipates that myriad details will have to be filled in next year in legislation overhauling the tax code and curbing the growth of benefit programs.

Tine is growing shorter before the deadline to avert the fiscal cliff, which is a combination of expiring Bush-era tax cuts and automatic, across-the-board spending cuts that are the result of prior failures of Congress and Obama to make a budget deal.

Many economists say such a one-two punch could send the fragile economy back into recession.

GOP aides said their plan is based on one presented by Erskine Bowles, co-chairman of a deficit commission Obama appointed earlier in his term. in testimony to a special deficit "supercommittee" last year - in effect a milder version of a 2010 Bowles proposal that caused both GOP and Democratic leaders in Congress to recoil.

Unlike Bowles' official 2010 plan, drafted with former GOP Sen. Alan Simpson, the version released Monday drops the earlier endorsement of Obama's proposal to increase tax rates on family income exceeding \$250,000 back to Clinton-era levels, with the top rate jumping from 35 percent to 39.6 percent.

Bowles, in a statement, said he was flattered but the GOP plan does not represent his proposal.

Still, he added, "Every offer put forward brings us closer to a deal, but to reach an agreement, it will be necessary for both sides to move beyond their opening positions."

Storm delays lift already strong US auto sales

DETROIT (AP)—Superstorm Sandy gave an extra boost to U.S. auto sales, making November the best month for carmakers in nearly five years.

Toyota, Volkswagen and Chrysler were among the companies posting impressive increases for November, which is normally a lackluster month because of colder weather and holiday distractions. Only General Motors was left struggling to explain yet another month of weak growth.

Industry sales rose 15 percent from a year earlier to 1.1 million, according to AutoData. That was their fastest pace since January 2008. U.S. sales would reach 15.5 million this year if they stayed at November's rate, far higher than the 14.3 million rate in the first 10 months of this year.

Americans are more confident in the economy, a key driver of auto sales. Home values are rising, hiring is up and auto financing remains readily available. And besides just feeling

better, people need to replace aging cars or vehicles damaged by Sandy.

"Everything is kind of moving along almost in concert now," says Jeff Schuster, senior vice president of forecasting for LMC Automotive, a Detroit-area industry consulting firm.

Sandy added 20,000 to 30,000 sales industry wide last month, mostly from people who planned to buy cars during the October storm but had to delay their purchases, Ford estimates.

People who need to replace storm-damaged vehicles are expected to drive sales for several more months. GM estimates that 50,000 to 100,000 vehicles will eventually need to be replaced.

Even so, carmakers warned that uncertainty over the "fiscal cliff" could undo some of the gains.

The term refers to sharp government spending cuts and tax increases scheduled to start Jan. 1 unless an agreement to cut the

budget deficit is reached between Congress and the White House. The cuts and tax increases, if enacted, could push the U.S. economy back into a recession and could derail the industry's recovery.

Alec Gutierrez, a senior market analyst with Kelley Blue Book, said a household making \$100,000 per year would pay \$160 more per month if the payroll tax goes up 2 percent. That's about the same amount as a lease payment on a compact car. For that reason, Gutierrez suspects some buyers are waiting to see if an agreement is reached before investing in a new vehicle.

But for now, most Americans seem comfortable buying.

At Toyota, sales rose 17 percent in November, partly due to post-Sandy demand. Honda was up 39 percent thanks to strong sales of the new Accord sedan and clearance deals on the outgoing Civic, which was replaced by a new 2013 Civic at the end of the month. Volkswagen's sales rose 29 percent on the strength of the Passat sedan.

But at General Motors, sales rose just 3 percent.

GM's biggest brand, Chevrolet, reported flat sales over last year despite new products like the Spark minicar. Silverado pickup sales fell 10 percent.

GM's sales have been trailing the industry all year. They were up 4 percent through October, compared to the industry-wide increase of 14 percent.

Kurt McNeil, GM's U.S. sales chief, and other GM executives tried to explain the automaker's disappointing performance.

GM said its competitors resorted to higher-than-usual incentives last month to get rid of 2012 model-year trucks. GM, which had more 2013 trucks on its lots, was offering \$500 less per truck than the industry average. GM has been trying to hold the line on costly incentives, which can hurt resale value and brand image.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Delta Air eyes bigger slice of NY-London travel

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—The skies between London and New York are full of business travelers, and Delta Air Lines wants more of them. Delta is looking into buying a big stake in Virgin Atlantic, the second-biggest airline at London's Heathrow airport. New York to London is one of the world's most important travel routes, and Delta currently flies fewer flights to Heathrow than its main U.S. competitors, American and United. On Monday, Singapore Airlines said it is in discussions with "interested parties" to sell its 49 percent stake in Virgin Atlantic. A person with knowledge of the talks told The Associated Press that Delta is in talks with Singapore Airlines about buying the Virgin Atlantic stake. The person requested anonymity because the talks are ongoing. The Singapore Airlines statement said the talks may or may not result in a deal.

Shipyard accident injures 89 workers in Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP)—Officials say 89 workers have been injured, some seriously, in an accident at a Singapore shipyard. The Ministry of Manpower says the accident occurred Monday on an oil exploration rig being built by Jurong Shipyard Pte. Ltd. The rig consists of a platform on three legs that can be raised or lowered. A shipyard spokeswoman says one of the legs failed to operate when workers were testing the rig, causing it to tilt to one side. The ministry says the injured workers were taken to hospitals and 80 were later discharged. Three remained in an emergency ward.

14 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Nation

US weighing military options if Syria uses WMD

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House and its allies are weighing military options to secure Syria's chemical and biological weapons, after U.S. intelligence reports show the Syrian regime may be readying those weapons and may be desperate enough to use them, U.S. officials said Monday.

President Barack Obama, in a speech at the National Defense University on Monday, pointedly warned Syrian President Bashar Assad not to use his arsenal.

"Today I want to make it absolutely clear to Assad and those under his command: The world is watching," Obama said. "The use of chemical weapons is and would be totally unacceptable. And if you make the tragic mistake of using these weapons, there will be consequences and you will be held accountable."

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, in Prague for meetings with Czech officials, said she wouldn't outline any specifics.

"But suffice it to say, we are certainly planning to take action if that eventuality were to occur," Clinton said.

Options now being considered range from aerial strikes to limited raids by regional forces to secure the stockpiles, according to one current U.S. official, and one former U.S. official, briefed on the matter. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the issue publicly.

NEW YORK (AP)-Flu sea-

son in the U.S. is off to its ear-

liest start in nearly a decade—

Health officials on Monday

said suspected flu cases have

jumped in five Southern states,

and the primary strain circulat-

ing tends to make people sicker

than other types. It is particularly hard on the elderly.

"It looks like it's shaping

up to be a bad flu season, but

only time will tell," said Dr.

Thomas Frieden, director of

the Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention.

and it could be a bad one.

The administration remains reluctant to dispatch U.S. forces into Syria, but a U.S. special operations training team is in neighboring Jordan, teaching troops there how to safely secure such sites together with other troops from the region, the

officials said.

The warnings to Syria come after U.S. intelligence detected signs the Syrian regime was moving the chemical weapons components around within several of Syria's chemical weapons sites in recent days,

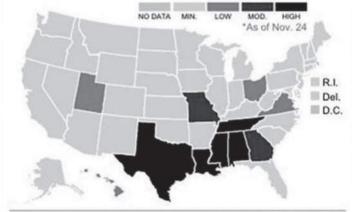


White House Press Secretary Jay Carney gestures during his daily news briefing at the White House in Washington, Monday, Dec., 3, 2012.

Flu season

CDC says US flu season starts early, could be bad

Health officials say flu season is off to its earliest start in 10 years. Here is the latest influenza-like illness activity across the United States:



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

The good news is that the nation seems fairly well prepared, Frieden said. More than a third of Americans have been vaccinated, and the vaccine formulated for this year is well-matched to the strains of the virus seen so far, CDC officials said.

Higher-than-normal reports of flu have come in from Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas. An uptick like this usually doesn't happen until after Christmas. Flu-related hospitalizations are also rising earlier than usual, and there have already been two deaths in children. Hospitals and urgent care centers in northern Alabama have been bustling. "Fortunately, the cases have been relatively mild," said Dr. Henry Wang, an emergency medicine physician at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Parts of Georgia have seen a boom in traffic, too. It's not clear why the flu is showing up so early, or how long it will stay.

"My advice is: Get the vac-

Hospitals and urgent care cine now," said Dr. James Steinberg, an Emory University infectious diseases specialist in Atlanta.

The last time a conventional flu season started this early was the winter of 2003-04, which proved to be one of the most lethal seasons in the past 35 years, with more than 48,000 deaths. The dominant type of flu back then was the same one seen this year.

according to a senior U.S. defense official and two U.S. officials speaking on Monday. The activities involved movement within the sites, rather than the transfer of components in or out of various sites, two of the officials said.

But they were activities they had not seen before, that bear further scrutiny, one said.

Another senior U.S. official described it as "indications of preparations" for a possible use of the chemical weapons. The U.S. still doesn't know whether the regime is planning to use them, but the official says there is greater concern because there is the sense that the Assad regime is under greater pressure now.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak publicly about intelligence matters.

U.S. intelligence officials also intercepted and approximation.

intercepted one communication within the last six months they believe was between Iran's infamous Quds Force, urging Syrian regime members to use its supplies of toxic Sarin gas against rebels and the civilians supporting them in the besieged city of Homs, a former U.S. official said. That report was not matched by other intelligence agencies, and other intelligence officials have said Iran also does not want the Syrians to use their chemical weapons.

The Assad regime insists it would not use such weapons against Syrians, though it carefully does not admit to having them. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the government "would not use chemical weap-

ons - if there are any - against its own people under any circumstances." The regime is party to the 1925 Geneva Protocol banning chemical weapons in war.

The Syrian assurances did not placate the White House.

"We are concerned that in an increasingly beleaguered regime, having found its escalation of violence through conventional means inadequate, might be considering the use of chemical weapons against the Syrian people," said White House press secretary Jay Carney.

"Assad has killed so many of his people, I just wouldn't be surprised if he turned these weapons on them," added Maryland Rep. Dutch Ruppersberger, the top Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, after intelligence briefings Monday.

California sea smuggling claims Coast Guard life

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The killing of a U.S. Coast Guardsman whose crew was chasing a vessel suspected of being laden with drugs appears to be the latest example of how smugglers are venturing farther north in a game of cat-and-mouse along the California coast.

Chief Petty Officer Terrell Horne, 34, died Sunday after he was struck in the head by the suspect vessel near the Channel Islands, west of Los Angeles and about 180 miles northwest of the U.S.-Mexico border.

Two Mexican men - Jose Meija Leyva and Manuel Beltran Higuera—were charged Monday in Los Angeles with killing a federal officer while the officer was on duty.

Horne is the first law enforcement official to die on California's seas since a spike in illegal activity began several years ago, said Ralph DeSio, a U.S. Customs and Border Protection spokesman. At least six people aboard suspected smuggling vessels have been killed since the 2010 fiscal year.

The Halibut, an 87-foot patrol cutter based in Marina del Rey, was dispatched after a Coast Guard C-130 plane spotted the 30-foot "panga" vessel was spotted traveling without lights near Santa Cruz Island, the largest of the eight Channel Islands, according to a criminal complaint.

The cutter contains a 21-footlong rigid-hull inflatable boat that the Coast Guard routinely uses on missions that require more speed and agility than the cutter can deliver.

As Horne and his team came within about 20 yards of the suspect vessel in their inflatable boat, the suspect vessel gunned its engine, knocking Horne and Brandon Langdon into the water, according to the complaint. Langdon was treated for a knee injury and two other crewmembers aboard the inflatable boat were unharmed in the collision at 1:20 a.m.

Coast Guard spokesman Adam Eggers said waiting for the vessel to make land would have introduced other risks and logistical challenges. The Coast Guard's mandate, he said, is to interdict at sea.

"As of right now, there are absolutely zero questions about whether they followed proper protocol," Eggers said.

Coast Guard crews followed the suspects by air and sea for nearly four hours until the vessel's engine died 20 miles north of the Mexican border, according to the complaint. An officer used pepper spray on both suspects.

Meija Leyva identified himself as the captain and told authorities he was taking gasoline to lost friends, according to the complaint. Beltran Higuera told authorities he was offered \$3,000 to deliver gasoline to another boat that was waiting for them, but they never found it.

The complaint makes no mention of drugs being found on the boat.

Attorneys for both men did not immediately respond to phone messages seeking comment. A judge scheduled a preliminary hearing Dec. 17.

ACROSS THE NATION

Senate OKs Obama's choice for Afghan commander

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate has approved President Barack Obama's choice to be the top commander in Afghanistan. By voice vote Monday, lawmakers cleared the way for Gen. Joseph Dunford, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps, to take over as head of U.S. and coalition forces in Afghanistan. Dunford would replace Gen. John Allen, the current commander who has been nominated to take charge in Europe. Allen's nomination is on hold as he's ensnared in the sex scandal that had led to the resignation of CIA director David Petraeus. Dunford takes charge

at a critical time for Obama and the military as they decide in the coming weeks the pace of drawing down the 66,000 U.S. combat troops in Afghanistan. Dunford has directed combat forces in Iraq. they leave during the cleanup that started Saturday, but some appeared to be returning to their homes. Some displaced residents were exasperated by the sheer volume of explosive material, which is more than

Explosives plant cleanup disrupts Louisiana town

DOYLINE, La. (AP)—The cleanup of 3,000 tons of explosives haphazardly stored at a munitions plant has frayed the nerves of residents who evacuated, closed the high school and spawned a criminal investigation of the company that owns the materials. Authorities said about half the town's 800 residents had heeded requests that

that started Saturday, but some appeared to be returning to their homes. Some displaced residents were exasperated by the sheer volume of explosive material, which is more than authorities initially estimated. Adding to the uncertainty was a forecast of thunderstorms Tuesday that could slow efforts to move the propellant used in artillery shells to safer storage sites. "We got outside the evacuation area when they said there was a million pounds. Now it's six million." said Frank Peetz, 71, who was staying with his wife in a camper at a nearby state park. "Maybe we ought to be up in Arkansas somewhere."

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 **15** SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Asia

Strong typhoon pounds PH; 41K leave homes

MANILA, Philippines (AP)— The strongest typhoon to hit the Philippines this year was pounding southern provinces Tuesday, cutting power, suspending travel and flooding areas already vulnerable to landslides.

More than 41,000 residents have moved out of their homes in high-risk coastal villages and along rivers, including in southern provinces that were devastated by a deadly storm a year ago.

Civil defense chief Benito Ramos said officials were checking for casualties or damage from a landslide on a mountainside village in Compostela Valley province. They were also working to verify unconfirmed casualty reports from Southern Leyte and Davao Oriental provinces. Power has been cut off in several municipalities in southern Surigao del Sur, Surigao del Norte and Davao Oriental provinces while parts of Agusan del Sur province are flooded, he added.

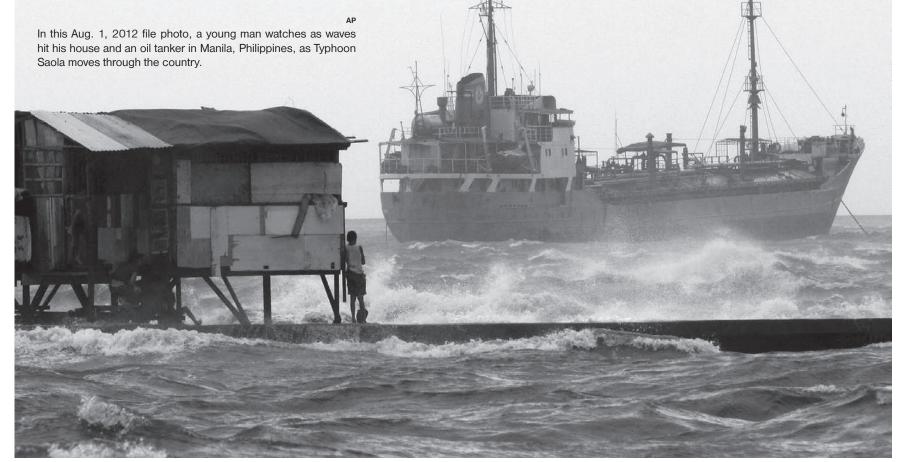
On Monday, President Benigno Aquino III made a national TV appeal for people in Typhoon Bopha's path to move to safety and take storm warnings seriously.

"This typhoon is not a joke," Aquino said after meeting top officials in charge of disasterresponse.

"But we can minimize the damage and loss of lives if we help each other," he added.

Government forecaster Jori Loiz said Bopha, the strongest typhoon to hit the country this year has weakened since it made landfall in Davao Oriental province early Tuesday. It now packs 160 kilometers (99 miles) per hour and gusts of up to 195 kph (121 mph).

The typhoon's movement has slowed to 20 kph (12 mph) and veered northwest, Loiz said. Its eye was last estimated at 50 kilometers (31 miles) east of



Bukidnon's Malaybalay city.

From the south, it is forecast to cross to Negros island in central Philippines and the northern portion of western Palawan island before blowing out into the South China Sea.

Bopha, which has a 600-kilometer- (373-mile-) wide rain band, was expected to be out of Philippine territory by Friday.

At least 80 domestic flights have been canceled.

Aquino said army troops deployed search and rescue boats in advance. Authorities ordered small boats and ferries not to venture out along the country's eastern seaboard, warning of rough seas and torrential rain and wind that could whip up four-meter (13-foot) waves.

In the mountainous Compostela Valley, authorities halted mining operations and ordered villagers to evacuate to prevent a repeat

of deadly losses from landslides and the collapse of mine tunnels seen in recent storms.

> Residents in a riverside village that was wiped out by the storm last December in southern

Cagayan de Oro city moved to a government hall, carrying TV sets, bundles of clothes and a pig.

Nearly 8,000 villagers were moved to four government shelters in Hinatuan, the coastal town that was directly in Bopha's path until the typhoon began to veer slightly, officials said.

Bopha, a Cambodian word for flower or a girl, is the 16th weather disturbance to hit the Philippines this year, less than the 20 typhoons and storms that normally lash the archipelago annually. Forecasters say at least one more storm may hit the country before Christmas.

SKorea to reroute flights on NKorean rocket path

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)— South Korea said Monday that it plans to reroute passenger flights over the Yellow Sea to avoid possible collisions with debris from a long-range rocket that North Korea plans to launch this month.

The Ministry of Land, Transport and Maritime Affairs said it made the decision after learning that North Korea had informed China and Singapore of the flight path and other details of the launch.

North Korea told those nations the rocket would be launched in the morning and its debris would fall into the Yellow Sea and in waters east of the Philippines.

The International Maritime Organization said Monday that North Korea had informed it that it planned to launch a satellite between Dec. 10-22 during the hours of 7 a.m and noon. The North provided a list of dangerous coordinates where debris could fall.

South Korean officials said they will reroute six Korean Air flights. They also are considering whether to reroute or change the departure times of several Korean Air and Asiana Airlines flights to Manila.

In a defiant move expected to raise the stakes of a global standoff over its missile and nuclear programs, the North announced Saturday that it would

launch a rocket mounted with a polar-orbiting Earth observation satellite this month.

The United States considers North Korea's rocket launches to be veiled covers for tests of technology for long-range missiles designed to strike the United States. Such tests are banned by the U.N. Security Council which has imposed two rounds of sanctions on the North following its nuclear tests.

It would be North Korea's second launch attempt under leader Kim Jong Un, who took power following his father Kim Jong II's death nearly a year ago. The embarrassing misfire of its last rocket eight months ago earned the country widespread international condemnation.

The Korean Committee for Space Technology said the launch was a request of late leader Kim Jong II. He died on Dec. 17, 2011, and North Koreans are expected to mark that date this year with some fanfare.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban

Ki-moon urged North Korea "not to take any further provocative actions that will heighten tension in the region" after the failed launch in April, and U.N. spokesman Martin Nesirky said Monday "his view has not changed on the matter."

Ban called the failed launch "deplorable" because it defied international opinion, violated a U.N. Security Council ban, "and was a threat to international stability," Nesirky told reporters at U.N. headquarters in New York.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Japan's campaign starts, focus on economy, nuclear

TOKYO (AP)—Leaders for Japan's biggest political parties are kicking off the campaign for parliamentary elections to be held in less than two weeks with visits to nuclear crisis-hit Fukushima prefecture. Nuclear energy and the economy are key issues in the Dec. 16 election, which is widely expected to send Prime Minister Yoshihiko Noda's unpopular Democratic Party of Japan to defeat after three years in power. The opposition Liberal Democratic Party is leading in the polls, but is unlikely to win a majority of seats in the lower house of parliament.

Flight attendant quits over Facebook coffee threat

BANGKOK (AP)—A Cathay Pacific flight attendant has guit her job after writing on her Facebook page that she wanted to throw coffee on a passenger who is the youngest daughter of Thailand's ousted Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. The flight attendant caused a stir in the Thai online communities last week for posting hostile comments about Paetongtarn Shinawatra. She also posted a picture of Paetongtarn's seating number. The Hong Kong-based airline posted Monday on its Thailand Facebook page that the stewardess is "no longer an employee." It did not release the name of the flight attendant, whose Facebook handle is Honey Lochanachai. She said Monday on Facebook that she resigned to take responsibility.

Police raid Japan tunnel operator after collapse

TOKYO (AP)—Police were searching the offices Tuesday of the company operating an expressway tunnel where hundreds of concrete ceiling slabs collapsed onto moving vehicles below, killing nine people.

Those killed in Sunday's accident were traveling in three vehicles in the 4.7-kilometer (3mile) long Sasago Tunnel about 80 kilometers (50 miles) west of Tokyo. The transport ministry has ordered inspections of 49 other highway and road tunnels of similar construction around the mountainous country. The tunnel, on a highway that links the capital to central Japan, opened in 1977.

About a dozen uniformed police were shown on television entering the headquarters of Central Japan Expressway Co. and plastic boxes.

"Yes they are searching our offices here. We will be fully cooperating with them," said Osamu Funahashi, an official at the government-owned company.

Police and the highway operator are investigating why the concrete slabs in the Sasago Tunnel collapsed. An inspection of the tunnel's roof in September found nothing amiss, according to Satoshi Noguchi, another company official.

An estimated 270 concrete slabs, each weighing 1.4 metric tons (1.54 short tons), suspended from the arched roof of the tunnel fell over a stretch of about 110 meters (120 yards), Noguchi said.

The operator was exploring the possibility that bolts holding

early Tuesday, toting cardboard a metal piece suspending the panels above the road had become aged, he said. The panels, measuring about 5 meters (16 feet) by 1.2 meters (4 feet), and 8 centimeters (3 inches) thick, were installed when the tunnel was constructed in 1977.

> Recovery work at the tunnel was suspended Monday while the roof was being reinforced to prevent more collapses, said Jun Goto, an official at the Fire and Disaster Management Agency

> Yoshihiro Seto, an officer with the Yamanashi prefectural police, said they can't rule out that there are more bodies or survivors in the tunnel, but the possibility is low. Goto said they hope to resume recovery work on Tuesday.

> Two people suffered injuries in the collapse.

16 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

World

Israel feels heat from allies over settlements

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel rejected a wave of American and European condemnations Monday over plans to build thousands of new homes in West Bank settlements, vowing to press forward with the construction in the face of widespread international opposition.

The announcement from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office was likely to deepen a rift that has emerged between Israel and some of its closest allies following the U.N.'s recognition of a Palestinian state last week. The U.N. decision appears to be fueling a tougher international line against Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem.

Israeli ambassadors were summoned for consultations in five European capitals, and European officials warned of other potential measures against Israel. In Washington, the U.S. said the Israeli actions were "especially damaging" to peace prospects.

Italian Premier Mario Monti and French President François



A view of the Jewish West Bank settlement of Maaleh Adumim, with E1, background, near Jerusalem, Sunday, Dec. 2, 2012.

Egypt's crisis widens with planned march, strikes

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's political crisis is widening, with plans for a huge march and a general strike Tuesday to protest the hurried drafting of a new constitution and decrees by President Mohammed Morsi that gave him nearly unrestricted powers.

Morsi also faces the prospect of wider civil disobedience as media, the tourism industry and law professors pondered moves that would build on a strike by the nation's judges.

The planned strikes and march raise new fears of unrest, threatening to derail the country's transition to democratic rule.

"Egypt is a big ship in high seas, and no one should stop its captain from taking it to the shore," said Morsi's legal adviser, Mohammed Gaballah, defending his boss.

"The ship must keep moving under any conditions," he told The Associated Press on Monday.

The country's judges have already gone on strike over Morsi's Nov. 22 decrees that placed him above oversight of any kind, including the courts. Following those decrees, a panel dominated by the president's Islamist supporters rushed through a draft constitution without the participation of representatives of liberals and Christians. Only four women, all Islamists, attended the marathon, all-night session.

Morsi has called for a Dec. 15 national referendum to approve the constitution.

An opposition coalition dominated by the liberal and leftist groups that led last year's uprising had already called for a general strike Tuesday and a large demonstration against the constitutional process and Morsi's decrees.

Newspapers plan to suspend publication, and privately owned TV networks will blacken their screens all day.

Monday's front pages of Egypt's most prominent news-

papers said, "No to dictatorship" on a black background, with a picture of a man wrapped in newspaper and with his feet shackled while he squatted in a prison cell.

Hotels and restaurants are considering turning off their lights for a half-hour to protest against Morsi, according to the Supporting Tourism Coalition, an independent body representing industry employees.

Cairo University law professors petitioned their dean to let them stop teaching.

"The professors believe they must not teach law under a regime that doesn't respect the law," said one of the professors, Khaled Abu Bakr.

Hollande issued a joint statement saying they were "deeply worried" by Israel's settlement plans. The two men, meeting in Lyon, France, called the Israeli decisions "serious and illegal"

and a "serious obstacle" to Mid-

east peace. Netanyahu, however, showed no signs of bending. His office said Israel would continue to stand up for its interests "even in the face of international pressure, and there will be no change in the decision taken."

Europe could potentially play a strong role in any international action against the settlements. Europe is Israel's largest trade partner, and Israel has a partnership with the EU giving its exports preferential status.

But divisions within Europe could make it difficult to take any concerted action. Germany, Europe's largest economy, has a close relationship with Israel, and given its history as the perpetrator of the Holocaust, it is unlikely to take any strong action against the Jewish state.

In last week's decision, the United Nations General Assembly overwhelmingly recognized a Palestinian state in the West Bank, east Jerusalem and Gaza Strip, territories captured by Israel in the 1967 Mideast war.

Netanyahu rejects a return to the 1967 lines. His government also fears the Palestinians will use their upgraded status to join the U.N.'s International Criminal Court and pursue war crimes charges against Israel.

But Israel was joined by only eight other countries in opposing the bid, which was seen as a resounding international rejection of Israeli settlements in occupied territories. In a slap to Israel, its closest European allies—Britain, Germany, Italy and France-all abstained or voted with the Palestinians.

Israel has angrily condemned the vote as an attempt by the Palestinians to bypass negotiations. In particular, Netanyahu's government says it undermines any chance of negotiations over future border arrangements by endorsing the Palestinians' territorial demands.

The Israeli response to the U.N. decision was swift and strong. Just hours after Thursday's vote, Israel announced plans to build 3,000 new homes in the West Bank and east Jerusalem. It also said it would begin plans to develop a sensitive part of the West Bank just outside of Jerusalem.

Amnesty details 'horrific' abuses in south Yemen

SANAA, **Yemen** (AP)—Al-Qa-men's government of abuses. ida committed "horrific" rights abuses during its 16 months in power in southern Yemen, Amnesty International charged in a report released Tuesday, documenting the beheading of an alleged sorcerer, crucifixion of a man accused spying and amputation of a man's hand for stealing.

The rights abuses between February 2011 and June 2012, when al-Oaida in the Arabian Peninsula's (AQAP) affiliate Ansar al-Shariah took over parts of southern Yemen, resulted in "a human rights catastrophe," according to the London-based rights group.

The report also accuses Ye-

"We believe that horrific human rights abuses took place and violations of international humanitarian law by both sides," according to author of the report, Celina Nasser.

Al-Qaida's takeover of large swaths of territory in southern Yemen was the first time the group has governed entire towns and cities.

The 57-page report, titled "Conflict in Yemen: Abyan's Darkest Hour," documents some of the violations during the conflict between Yemeni government forces and Ansar al-Shariah. It also sheds light on how al-Qaida militants ran gov-

Al-Qaida militants seized Zinjibar, the capital of Abyan province on the Arabian Sea coast, while Yemen was mired in the turmoil of a popular uprising against then-President Ali Abdullah Saleh. The militants also took control of several nearby towns. Saleh, once a U.S. ally, stepped down in February under a Gulf-mediated, U.S.-backed deal.

Al-Qaida set up committees to rule southern Yemen. Their rulings and punishments were documented in videos released by al-Qaida in Yemen's media arm. Amnesty compiled some in a nearly 10-minute video released with the report.

The video shows a man in front of a crowd holding the severed head of a woman accused of sorcery. Other scenes show amputation of a man's left hand in a public square in the town of Jaar in southern Yemen. He was accused of stealing electronic wires. Without a trial or prior knowledge of the punishment, he wakes up to find his hand was cut off.

"They gave me an injection, and I slept ... when I woke up, my hand was not there," the man told Amnesty.

Another scene shows the bloated body of a man who was killed and crucified in a public square.

WORLD BRIEFS

Congo troops take back city of Goma

GOMA, Congo (AP)—Congolese soldiers took back control of this strategic city of 1 million on Monday, though the rebels who occupied it for two weeks continued to stake out positions just 3 kilometers (1.6 miles) away, threatening to seize it anew if Congo fails to meet their demands. Crowds cheered the soldiers as they arrived in Goma's main barracks in trucks, and women rushed forward to kiss the troops. Their return comes 13 days after the city fell to the rebels, who are widely believed to be backed by Rwanda. In a worrying sign, however, the M23 rebels remained in tactical positions in the hills nearby, saving they were waiting for the government to respond to their grievances before deciding whether to try to retake the city.

Iran claims capture of another US drone

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iran's state TV says the country's Revolutionary Guard has captured a U.S. drone after it entered the Iranian airspace over the Persian Gulf. The report Tuesday quotes the Guard's navy chief, Gen. Ali Fadavi, as saying that the "intruding" drone was captured, but gave no further details on the location or when the incident occurred. Iran claimed in 2011 it brought down a CIA spy drone after it entered Iranian airspace from its eastern borders with Afghanistan and Pakistan. Tehran later said it recovered data from the RQ-170 Sentinel, a top-secret drone equipped with stealth technology.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 17

Focus

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Software company founder John McAfee said Monday he has fled from Belize using a bizarre ruse, adding yet another chapter in what threatens to become one of the biggest media fugitive frenzies since O.J. Simpson led police on a low-speed chase in 1994.

McAfee claimed in a blog posting he had evaded authorities by staging an elaborate distraction in neighboring Mexico.

In an email to The Associated Press, McAfee confirmed a posting to his website in which he described, in what appeared to be joking tones, how he mounted the ruse.

"My 'double,' carrying on (sic) a North Korean passport under my name, was detained in Mexico for pre-planned misbehavior," McAfee wrote in the posting, "but due to indifference on the part of authorities (he) was evicted from the jail and was unable to serve his intended purpose in our exit plan."

It was a turn typical of the bizarre saga of the eccentric anti-virus company founder wanted for questioning in connection with the killing of fellow American ex-pat Gregory Viant Faull, who was shot to death at the Belize island where they both had homes in early November.

Since then, McAfee has refused to turn himself in for questioning saying he fears Belizean police would kill him, and has titillated the media with phone calls, emails and blog posts detailing his life on the lam. It has all resulted in a rather undignified media scrum to get interviews with McAfee, complete with taunts.

Vice magazine, two of whose journalists are reportedly traveling with McAfee, posted a story on its website entitled "We Are with John McAfee Right Now, Suckers," along with a photos showing McAfee and VICE editor-in-chief Rocco Castoro.

Wired magazine later said on its website that location information embedded in the photo shows McAfee and the journalists were at Guatemala's Rio Dulce National Park, near the border with Belize, when the photo was taken.

A representative of the Faull family said Monday that the real issues - the murder of an American who by all accounts was well-liked by his neighbors on Belize's Ambergris Caye—are getting lost.

"The real issues are that a human life was violently taken, (and) authorities lack all the information ... we're beyond the danger of them being lost, it's become entertainment. This is tragic to the family," said Dan Keeney of Texas-based DPK Public Relations, who has issued statements on behalf of the Faull family.

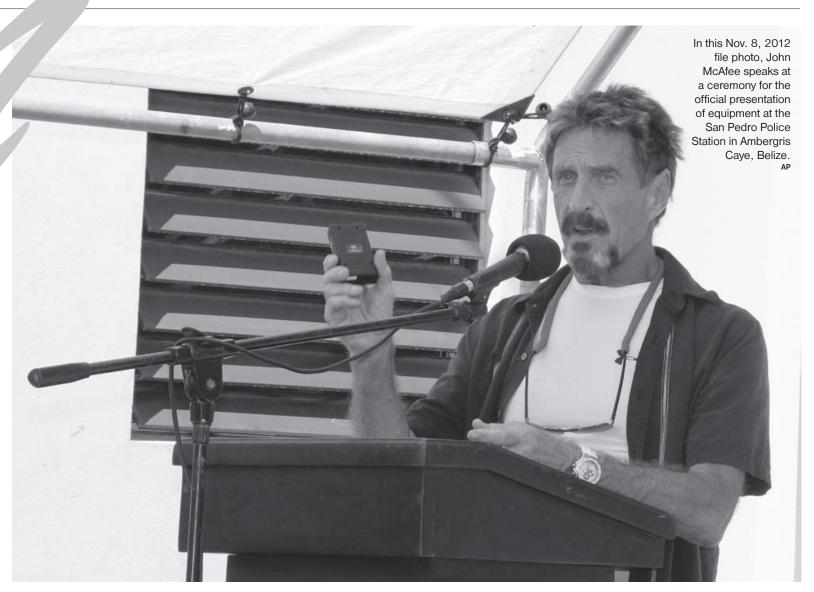
A woman who answered the phone at an Orlando, Florida phone number listed for Vickie Faull confirmed she was a relative and said that Keeney spoke on behalf of the family, but had no further comment.

"Mr. McAfee is astute at media manipulation, and he's using those skills to great effect," said Keeney. "I would just caution the media not to let themselves be manipulated."

Keeney added in email that "we strongly urge journalists covering the McAfee story not to glorify the words and actions of this person who, by refusing to cooperate and tell police all he knows about the murder of Greg Faull, is harming the investigation of the murder."

"The family of Mr. Faull is concerned that journalists may be assisting Mr. McAfee either implicitly by helping him to create an elaborate fiction that undermines trust in authorities or explicitly in his efforts to escape."

Police in Belize have called McAfee a "person of interest" in the slaying of Faull and asked him to turn himself in for questioning. He has not been



McAfee says he's left Belize, is Still on run



A man rides a bicycle past the beachside entrance to the home of software company founder John McAfee in Ambergris Caye, Belize, Thursday Nov. 15, 2012.

charged, however, and thus can travel at will.

Faull was shot to death in his home, a couple of houses down from the compound where McAfee kept several noisy dogs, armed guards and entertained a steady stream of young women brought in from the mainland. McAfee acknowledges that his dogs were bothersome and that Faull had complained about them, but denied killing Faull. Several of the dogs were poisoned shortly before Faull's killing.

For two weeks, McAfee refused to turn himself in and claimed to be hiding in plain sight, wearing disguises and watching as police raided his house. It was unclear, however, how much of what McAfee—a confessed practical joker—said and wrote was true.

McAfee did not describe the entire plan, nor did he say where exactly he was now. He noted only that "we are not in Belize, but not quite out of the woods yet."

In a previous interview with the AP, McAfee had said he had no plans to leave Belize.

"I'm not going to leave this country," he had told the AP. "I love this country, this is my home. I intend to fight the injustice that's here from here, I can't do much from outside, can I?"

In Monday's post, McAfee said he left Belize because he thought "Sam," the young Belizean woman who has accompanied him since he went on the lam, was in danger.

"I left Belize because of a series of events which led both Sam and I to believe that she was in danger of capture. She has been my go-between and my eyes and ears in the outside world. I decided to make the move. I will be returning to Belize after I have place (sic) Sam in a safe position. My fight is in Belize, and I can do little in exile."

Police sources in Belize said early Monday they believed he was still in the country. The sparsely populated border between the two countries is unguarded and unmarked in many places.

Rumors arose over the weekend that McAfee had been caught, but Belizean police quickly denied that.

Belize's prime minister, Dean Barrow, has expressed doubts about McAfee's mental state: "I don't want to be unkind to the gentleman, but I believe he is extremely paranoid, even bonkers."

McAfee, who is extremely polite and coherent in telephone conversations, brushes off such accusations, telling the AP "if people want to call that paranoia, they can do so if you wish, that will not concern me."

McAfee, the creator of the McAfee antivirus program, has led an eccentric life since he sold his stake in the anti-virus software company that is named after him in the early 1990s and moved to Belize about three years ago to lower his taxes.

He told The New York Times in 2009 that he had lost all but \$4 million of his \$100 million fortune in the U.S. financial crisis. However, a story on the Gizmodo website quoted him as calling that claim "not very accurate at all." He has dabbled in yoga, ultra-light aircraft and producing herbal medications.

McAfee has never said where he's hiding. But in his blog, he has claimed to have disguised himself as a grungy street peddler and a foul-mouthed German tourist. **18** WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Campus Life

UOG students present at National Biomedical Research Conference



From left to right, Chasy Amado, Alisha Yamanaka, Dr. Tim Righetti, Norma Elizaga, Mary Rose Canlas, Daniel Taitano, Dr. Grazyna Badowski, and Dr. Helen J.D. Whippy, UOG senior vice president for Academic and Student Affairs



EMERGENCY MEETING

Members of the State Board of Education and Public School System officials during last week's afternoon's emergency meeting called by the board's fiscal and personnel affairs committee. The board and PSS management later decided to pay \$1.4 million to the NMI Retirement Fund for the employee contributions of its personnel.

UOG professor earns PhD in Nursing

Margaret Hattori-Uchima, an assistant professor at the Uni- National Advisory Coun- Guam is proud to claim her as a versity of Guam School of cil on Nurse Education and university citizen." Nursing and Health Sciences, recently earned her Ph.D. in Nursing from Villanova University. Her dissertation, "Chuukese Migrant Women in Guam: Perceptions of Barriers to Health Care" passed without any revisions, making her the 25th Ph.D. from Villanova University's College of Nursing.

TakeCare provided funding support for Hattori-Uchima as she pursued her Ph.D. "Take Care's support of my doctoral education speaks to their commitment to health care and nursing education on Guam, said Hattori-Uchima"

Practice found that less than 1 percent of the nation's more than 3 million nurses have a doctoral degree. The University of Guam School of Nursing and Health Sciences now benefits from having Guam's latest Doctor of Nursing in Hattori-Uchima.

"Dr. Hattori-Uchima is a fine example of a teacher-scholar who has always contributed to the University, our students and the community," said Dr. Helen Whippy, UOG senior vice president. "She has worked hard for her doctoral degree and succeeded, demonstrating the ongoing learning that is part of

A 2010 report from The scholarship. The University of

Kathryn Wood, UOG acting director of Nursing added, "Dr. Hattori-Uchima has participated in the education of the next generation of Guam nurses for many years. Through her work on campus and within the community, she models excellence in nursing education and practice, service, and scholarship. We are honored to have her on our faculty, and we celebrate her accomplishments."

Hattori-Uchima UOG's faculty, staff, and administration for their support. 'This achievement benefits our Nursing Program, and I am proud to continue to contribute to the education of our future nursing workforce. I am honored to be a part of the UOG family." *(UOG)*

Five University of Guam undergraduate students from the College of Natural and Applied Sciences recently presented at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students held in San Jose, California, on Nov. 1-10, 2012.

UOG Faculty, Dr. Grazyna Badowski, Mathematics and Dr. Tim Righetti, Biology, accompanied the students and served as judges for student presentations from other colleges and universities. All five UOG students presented at the conference.

- Chasy Amado presented on "Determining the Effects of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (Atrazine and Sevin) on Gambusia affinis: Preliminary results and proposed experiments"
- Mary Rose Canlas presented the "Characterization of Infiltrating M1/M2 Macrophages in Animal Models of Non-Alcoholic Steatohepatitis"
- Norma Elizaga presented her work on "Analyzing Endocrine Disrupting Chemical Effects on Gambusia affinis Weight Loss and Gain"
- Daniel Taitano presented a poster on "Investigating the Effects of Endocrine Disrupting Contaminants on Gambusia affinis Gonopodium"
- Alisha Yamanaka presented on the "Association Between Insufficiently Physically Active and the Prevalence of org. (PR)

Obesity on Guam"

Daniel Taitano, a UOG sophomore in Biology, received a prestigious ABRCMS Certificate of Achievement for his physiology poster on Gambusia affinis (Mosquitofish).

"It was truly a marvelous opportunity to see what students in other universities are studying and I encourage other UOG students interested in the biomedical field to participate next year," said Taitano.

Students from over 350 U. S. colleges and universities attended the four-day conference, and over 1,600 students participated in poster and oral presentations in 12 disciplines in the biomedical and behavioral sciences, including mathematics. Funding for the trip was supplied by the ABRCMS organizers, the College of Natural and Applied Sciences and the UOG Office of Research and Sponsored Projects.

ABRCMS is the largest, professional conference for biomedical and behavioral students and is designed to encourage underrepresented minority students to pursue advanced training in the biomedical and behavioral sciences and provide faculty mentors and advisors with resources for facilitating students' success. For more information, visit www.abrcms.

Athena Ogumoro graduates from EOU

LA GRANDE, OR—Athena 3.70-3.84 Ogumoro, of Saipan, graduated from Eastern Oregon University during the 2011-12 academic year. Ogumoro earned a BA degree in English.

EOU awarded 593 undergraduate degrees and 95 master's degrees in 2011-12. Students graduating with honors earned a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or above and an EOU GPA of the following:

Summa Cum Laude = GPA of 3.85 - 4.0

Magna Cum Laude = GPA of

Cum Laude = GPA of 3.50-3.69

Eastern Oregon University serves students and communities throughout Oregon with a special focus on rural, regional and distance learning. Programs are delivered on campus, online and onsite in La Grande and at 16 regional centers and include liberal arts, business, education and cooperative programs in agriculture, nursing, and dental hygiene. (PR)



From left to right, Dr. Robert A. Underwood, UOG president, Dr. Hattori-Uchima, Kathryn Wood, UOG acting director of Nursing, and Dr. Helen J.D. Whippy, UOG senior vice president for Academic and Student

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 19

Life & Style

Will and Kate expecting a baby, UK palace confirms

By CASSANDRA VINOGRAD ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON (AP)-Britain doesn't have to wait any longer: Prince William's wife, Kate, is pregnant.

St. James's Palace made the announcement Monday, saying that the Duchess of Cambridge—formerly Kate Middleton—has a severe form of morning sickness and is currently in a London hospital. William was at his wife's side.

The news drew congratulations from around the world, with the hashtag "royalbaby" trending globally on Twitter.

The couple's first child will be third in line to the thronebehind William and his father, Prince Charles—leapfrogging the gregarious Prince Harry and possibly setting up the first scenario in which a female heir could benefit from new gender rules about succession.

The palace would not say how far along the 30-year-old duchess is, only that she has not vet reached the 12-week mark.

Palace officials said the duchess was hospitalized with hyperemesis gravidarum, a severe form of morning sickness that affects about 1 in 200 women and can lead to dehydration or worse if left untreated. They said she was expected to remain hospitalized for several days and would require a period of rest afterward.

Until Monday's announcement, the duchess had shown no signs of being with child. She was photographed just last week bounding across a field clad in black high-heeled boots as she played field hockey with students at her former school.

Still, speculation has swirled about when she and William would start a family from almost the moment they were



In this Friday April 29, 2011 file photo Britain's Prince William and his bride Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, leave Westminster Abbey, London, following their wedding.

wed on April 29, 2011, in a lavish ceremony at Westminster Abbey.

The attractive young couple is immensely popular—with William's easy common touch reminding many of his mother, the late Princess Diana-and their child is expected to play an important role in British national life for decades to come.

For months, Kate's every move has been scrutinized for clues about a possible pregnancy-from each time she touched her stomach to whether her outfit choices hinted at a baby bump.

In September, tongues wagged over why she might be avoiding alcohol when the duchess opted to toast with a glass of ice water instead of champagne during a banquet in Singapore.

Last week, the rumor mill kicked into high gear when a beaming William accepted a

baby outfit from a well-wisher that bore the phrase, "Daddy's little co-pilot."

"I'll keep that," he reportedly said.

The confirmation of Kate's pregnancy caps a jam-packed year of highs and lows for the young royals.

They have traveled the world extensively as part of Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and weathered the embarrassment of a nude photos scandal, after a tabloid published topless images of the duchess.

Joe Little, managing editor of Majesty magazine, said the news ended a year that saw the royal family riding high in popular esteem after celebrations of Queen Elizabeth II's 60 years on the throne.

"People enjoyed the royal romance last year and now there's this. It's just a good news story amid all the doom and gloom,'

Ravian Van Den Hil, a Dutch student studying in London. "It makes me feel quite happy."

Others wondered why Britain continues to spend so much to support the royal family. "I don't think it's a good thing," said Stephen Jowitt as he strolled down Camden High Street. "It reinforces a class system."

The palace said the royal family was "delighted" by the news.

British Prime Minister David Cameron admitted he got a heads-up about the pregnancy, saying he found the news "quite difficult" to keep to himself and expressing confidence the young couple will make "absolutely brilliant parents."

The pregnancy comes after a 2011 decision by the leaders of Britain and the 15 Commonwealth nations endorsing new rules that give girls equal status with boys in the order of succession. Those changes make Kate's pregnancy all the more significant for the royal family, said Ingrid Seward, editor-in-chief of Majesty magazine.

In the chilly night air at Lon-

don's Camden market, concert-

goers and shoppers seemed sur-

prised by the news—though all

agreed that it had been widely

"It feels a lot like a Christmas

present for the nation!" said

anticipated.

"This is the first child who will be an heir to the throne, whatever sex they are," she said. "It's a new beginning."

Like Kate, William's mother, Diana, also reportedly suffered from morning sickness for months, and was the subject of constant media attention after she became pregnant just four months after her wedding to Prince Charles. "The whole world is watching my stomach," Diana once said.

According to Britain's Department of Health, severe morning sickness most often affects women early in their pregnancy, and is more common in young women, women who are pregnant for the first time and those expecting multiple babies.

Dr. Daghni Rajasingam, a spokeswoman for Britain's Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, said women with severe symptoms—including dehydration, dizziness and persistent vomiting—need to be hospitalized for treatment, including being given fluids intravenously.

"However, this usually only means a few days in (the) hospital," she said in a statement. The best advice for anyone suffering from (severe morning sickness) is to get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluid."

Why was pregnant duchess hospitalized?

hospitalized with is not.

In a statement Monday, palace officials said she was hospitalized with hyperemesis gravidarum, a potentially dangerous type of morning sickness where vomiting is so severe no food or liquid can be kept down. Palace officials said the duchess was expected to remain hospitalized for several days and would require a period of rest afterward.

The condition most often affects women early in their pregnancy; the duchess is less than 12 weeks pregnant.

Doctors said the duchess would likely recover in a few

ing sickness in pregnant women a spokeswoman for Britain's pecting multiple babies. is common, the problem the Royal College of Obstetri-Duchess of Cambridge has been cians and Gynaecologists, said causes it but suspect it could be women with severe symptoms—including dehydration, dizziness and persistent vomiting—needed to be hospitalized for treatment, including being given fluids intravenously.

"However, this usually only means a few days in (the) hospital," she said in a statement. "The best advice for anyone suffering from (severe morning sickness) is to get plenty of rest and drink lots of fluid.'

Severe morning sickness affects about 1 in 200 pregnant women, according to Britain's Department of Health. It is more common in young women, women who are pregnant

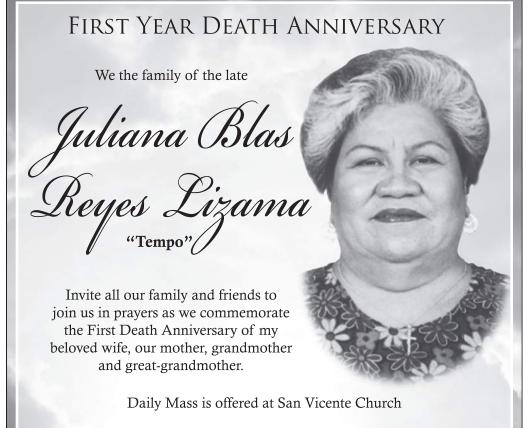
LONDON (AP)—While morn- days. Dr. Daghni Rajasingam, for the first time and those ex-

Doctors aren't sure what linked to hormonal changes or nutritional problems.

If the problem is recognized and treated early, doctors say there are no long-term effects for either the mother or the child. Left untreated, the mother could be at risk of developing neurological problems—including seizures—or risk delivering the baby early.

Rajasingam said most pregnant women recover from the condition with no serious consequences.

"With early diagnosis and treatment, there is no reason why we shouldn't expect a healthy pregnancy," she said.



December 6th, Thursday at 6:00pm

December 7th, Friday at 6:00pm

December 8th, Saturday at 9:00am December 9th, Sunday at 6:00am

December 10th - 13th, Monday through Thursday at 6:00pm

December 14th, Friday at 6:00am

Your presence, thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Mariano Crisostimo Lizama, Children, Grandchildren and Great-grandchildren

Pope joins tweeting masses with Pontifex handle

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Benedict XVI, the pope known for his hefty volumes of theology and lengthy encyclicals, is now trying brevity—spreading the faith through his own Twitter account.

The pontiff will tweet in eight languages starting Dec. 12 using his personal handle (at)Pontifex, responding live to questions about faith during his weekly general audience, the Vatican said Monday.

Within 10 hours of the Vatican's announcement, Benedict had already garnered nearly a quarter-million followers on the English version of (at)Pontifex alone, with thousands more following him in the eight other for the 85-year-old Benedict language accounts.

All that, and he hadn't sent a single tweet.

He may never hit the 1 billion faithful that the Catholic Church counts around the globe, but he's odds-on to get 1 million followers by the end of the year, British bookmakers Ladbrokes said.

The pope sent his first tweet last year from a generic Vatican account to launch the Holy See's news information portal, and someone in his name tweeted daily during Lent, part of the Vatican's efforts to increase the church presence in social media.

has been the subject of intense speculation ever since, and Monday's news conference was packed, a strong indication of the interest it has generated.

Greg Burke, the Vatican's communications adviser, said the handle (at)Pontifex was chosen because it not only means pope in Latin, but also bridgebuilder, suggesting unity.

How often will the pope tweet? "As often as he wants," Burke said, though he noted somewhat sarcastically that the pope, who still writes longhand, doesn't check his (nonexistent) A personal Twitter account Blackberry obsessively during

meetings "like the rest of us."

"He's not that kind of person. He's not walking around with an iPad. But all the pope's tweets are the pope's words," Burke said.

While the pope will push the button himself on Dec. 12, subsequent tweets will be sent by someone in the Vatican's secretariat of state. They will, however, all be approved by the pope, officials said.

"It's always going to have his engagement and his approval," said Monsignor Paul Tighe, the No. 2 in the Vatican's social communications office. "Not

physically, but from his mind."

'That's always the one unknown element: chemistry,"

all together the first time," says Malick, "and the lines pop right off the page."

popping.

"The chemistry between us is that we all adore each other," says White with a laugh—"no matter how much we deny it.'

"There's mutual respect," says Malick. "We've all been doing this for a long time. We're all seasoned. So is our crew and many of our writers."

White pipes up.

misgivings at the outset: "Hot in Cleveland" was the first original scripted show on a little cable network that, until then, was exclusively a home for much-loved series from the past.

"I was a little nervous to be the guinea pig," says Bertinelli.

"I didn't even know where TV

broadcast network," says Leeves, "and I found things had changed so much since the end of 'Frasier.' There was so much interference from the executives. But with this show I felt like we won't have all those network guys around. Here's a place we can go and experiment and —"

"Nobody'll ever know!"

"It'll be a secret!" cackles

"The president of TV Land, Larry Jones, is different," persists Malick over her co-stars' chortling. "We go out to dinner with him. He's one of our pals."

White nods emphatically, and then, with perfect timing, adds, "I'm the only one on the show who didn't get her job sleeping with Larry."

them all out of breath.

Bon Jovi talks charity, tour, daughter's struggle By JOHN CARUCCI first time in my life, we were

NEW YORK (AP)—Jon Bon Jovi has been with his band for more than 30 years, so he could be considered something of an expert when it comes to the durability of rock stars. Still, even Bon Jovi is mystified at how the senior set is dominating on the stage.

"I can't get over it," said Bon Jovi, who will perform next week with Paul McCartney, The Who, Bruce Springsteen and a host of other superstars at the 12-12-12 concert at Madison Square Garden to benefit victims of Superstorm Sandy.

"I'm (expletive) dying already and I'm gonna go out there and play four songs. How

do they do it?" he said, joking. "The Who and (Mick) Jagger and McCartney.

... I'm not going to be that journeyman. ... I'm not going to be that 75-year-old guy doing 150 shows a year.'

But at 50, he's not ready for early retirement either. Bon Jovi has a couple of songs in the upcoming Al Pacino film, "Stand Up Guys," and the band just completed their 12th studio album, "What About Now," set for release early next year. They also have a world tour kicking off in Connecticut on Feb. 9.

Bon Jovi was in a jovial mood when he sat down with The Associated Press last week to discuss his group's upcoming projects, but turned somber when he discussed some of the more painful events to hit him in 2012: The devastation caused in his home state of New Jersey by Superstorm Sandy and the recent troubles of his 19-year-old daughter, Stephanie Bongiovi, found unresponsive in her dorm room at an upstate New York college last month after an apparent heroin overdose. Still, he discussed it all with candorand optimism.

AP: What was the intent of releasing the single, album and tour in stages?

Bon Jovi: I know how to do it. It's as simple as that. ... New songs are why artists go on the road. That's why I go on the road. It's a three-prong play. Writing: You're intrigued. Recording: It brings it to life. And then you want to share it.

AP: Tell me about being part of the Jersey rocker pedigree.

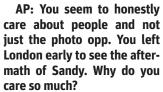
Bon Jovi: Depends what day of the week that it is. Those are my roots. That truth helped us not fall into the trap of our peer group in the mid-'80s. Being from New Jersey was actually a great asset, now that I'm a much older, wiser man. ... If you were to ask me about a mistake I have made, it's calling my fourth album, 'New Jersey,' because for the

compared to the E Street Band. I don't think we're anything like the E Street Band. There's a Jersey root there. I love the band. I grew up loving them. But I didn't want to sit up there telling (imitating Springsteen), 'Jonny when I was 16 ...' Uh uh. There was a lot of guys jumping on that bandwagon. I didn't do that.

AP: Do you see similarities between you and Bruce Springsteen as philanthro-

Bon Jovi: My philanthropy is no relation to anybody else's. None. My philanthropy and what we do at the foundation speaks for itself and has no relation to anyone's. I don't know what he does as a humanitar-

> ian. I have no clue. ... I'm talking about what I do at the Soul Kitchen (his community restaurant in New Jersey). It's a whole other level. It's millions of dollars in a foundation that does stuff.



Bon Jovi: That's a deep question without a simple answer. I throw gasoline and light the match on that photo opp guy. This was the argument in politics this year. Entitlements. I call them empowerments. If a guy doesn't have to worry so much on how he's going to have to get fed tonight, maybe he can concentrate on reading the book or going to get a job. Maybe his kids are going to be happier.

AP: With your daughter recently in the news, how do you go forward from there?

Bon Jovi: I didn't have any sisters. We bring home this girl the first day. Now what? Where's the manual? There was no manual. So you bring her up the best you can, you surround her with hugs and kisses and know that she may eventually fall down. I appreciate the outpouring of kindness in light of what happened in my household. I'm shocked as much as the next parent with this situation and had no idea. But then you surround them with best help and love and move on, and that's where we're at with it. Steph is a great kid. Great GPA. Cool school, Hamilton College up in Clinton, N.Y. Everything about it is idyllic. She was doing great. Then a sudden and steep decline. Hopefully, we caught it when we did and that's the end of it. But who knew? I've got three more to come.

AP: Sometimes kids just make bad decisions?

Bon Jovi: I hope so. I'm confident, but no one knows the future. It is what it is.



NEW YORK (AP)—Sure, three's a crowd. But four is a hoot.

Just consider the stars of "Hot in Cleveland," four funny ladies who would look right at home carved in the Mount Rushmore of comedy.

But rather than on a mountain ridge, this quartet was found one day last week at a tiny midtown Manhattan cafe whose other patrons looked on, bemused, at Valerie Bertinelli, Jane Leeves, Wendie Malick and, of course, Betty White huddled with a reporter at a corner banquette.

Their TV Land sitcom, now in its fourth season and airing Wednesdays at 10 p.m. EST, focuses on three slightly past their prime gal-pals from Los Angeles who decide to make a fresh start in Cleveland (of all places!), where they rent a house whose caretaker, played by White, serves as their salty companion and foil.

Hilarity ensues.

But not just on the show. Get these four women together and the laughter is nonstop. Which begs the question: When did each of them realize she was funny?

"I'm STILL waiting for that realization," says Bertinelli with

How's that? As a teen nearly 40 years ago she was lobbing punch lines on the hit sitcom "One Day at a Time," which ran on CBS for a decade. "But then I went on to do all these movies of the week. And after that, I would go up for roles on sitcoms and people would say, 'She doesn't do comedy, does she?' So I started to doubt myself."

Hard to believe, considering her exuberance and thunderous

"She's our little cheerleader," says Malick.

"I'm excitable," Bertinelli, 52, confirms, "and what's so ironic is that, during the first season of 'One Day at a Time,' I was screamed at because I wasn't projecting enough."

"Until my late 30s, I did all bad



This Nov. 27, 2012 photo shows "Hot in Cleveland" co-stars, from left, Jane Leeves, Betty White, Valerie Bertinelli and Wendie Malick in New

girls," says Malick. "Because I was tall, dark and imposing, I was always the murderer or the exwife or some nasty girl."

Then in 1990 came the HBO comedy "Dream On," where she was cast as the psychologist exwife of series star Brian Benben. Soon enough the producers realized she was funny.

"I went from being the straight woman to being more and more neurotic," Malick, 61, recalls. "By the end of the first season I had a total nervous breakdown. It was so freeing to just let it all out and run with it!" And from there she ran right into "Just Shoot Me," a long-running NBC comedy set at a fashion magazine, where she played a boozy, slutty former model.

"It happened for me at school," says Leeves, the British-born actress who spent 11 seasons as physical therapist Daphne Moon on NBC's "Frasier."

"I was geeky and tall and skinny," she says, "and the best way in with the other students was to make them laugh. I can remember doing fake lessons on the board before the teacher came in. I would have the class in stitches. And I would think: This is POW-ERFUL, I LIKE this!"

"These girls can ALL make ME laugh," White reports. "And with THIS one"-she nods toward Leeves—"if we lock eyes for a moment onstage, I'm gone!"

Leeves grins. "My back will be to you in a scene, and then I'll turn around and I'll go like this"—she flashes a little comic scowl at White, then swivels back again. White explodes with a helpless fit

of giggles. "Then I hear THAT," says Leeves, 51, with satisfaction. "Making her laugh is the best part of my day, I have to tell you!"

But as the whole world knows, 90-year-old Betty White is pretty funny herself, and has been since she was hosting a live talk-variety show on a Los Angeles station in TV's infancy, spanning 5 1/2 hours a day, six days a week. Her first primetime comedy, "Life With Elizabeth," followed in 1952.

Then, years later, she scored her indelible roles on "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" and "The Golden Girls."

So where did her funny come

"I'm an only child, and I had a mother and dad who never drew a straight line: They just thought funny," she explains. "We'd sit around the breakfast table and then we'd start kicking it around. My dad was a salesman and he would come home with jokes. He'd say, 'Sweetheart, you can take THAT one to school. But I wouldn't take THIS one.' We had such a wonderful time."

Of course, just because these four actresses are funny didn't guarantee they'd click as an ensemble.

says Leeves. "You don't know until you're

On this show, they're still

"I'm a little over-seasoned,"

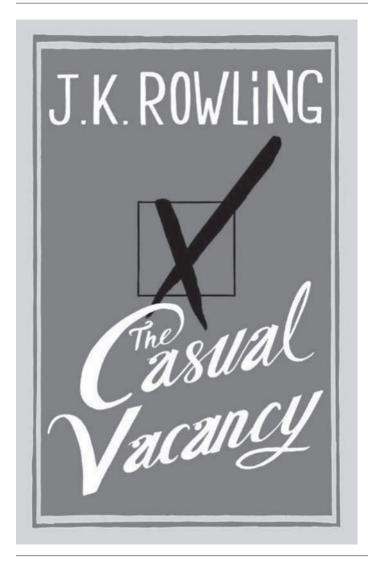
But they all acknowledge

Land was," says Malick.

"I had just done a pilot for a

White cracks.

Another roar of laughter leaves



BBC adapting Rowling's 'Casual Vacancy' for TV

LONDON (AP)—The BBC says it is turning J.K. Rowling's first novel for adults into a television drama.

"The Casual Vacancy" is a darkly humorous saga of modern British life in which a local council election unleashes rivalries and resentments in a small town.

The novel is Rowling's first full-length book since she finished the "Harry Potter" saga in 2007. It was published in September to mixed reviews but topped best-seller charts.

BBC drama controller Ben Stephenson called the book "an extraordinary tapestry of modern Britain" full of "humor, social commentary and above all fantastic characters.'

Rowling said the BBC was the "perfect home" for her story.

The BBC said Monday that the adaptation is due to air in 2014. The number of episodes has yet to be decided.

Elizabeth Price wins UK's Turner Prize for arts

LONDON (AP)—Video artist Elizabeth Price, who uses collage and clutter to explore people's relationship to consumer culture, was named the winner of British art's much-coveted much-mocked—Turner Prize on Monday.

Price, a London-based musician and co-founder of 1980s indie-pop group Talulah Gosh, beat three other finalists to snag the 25,000 pound (\$40,000) prize, which is awarded annually to a British artist under 50.

She was presented with the award by actor Jude Law at

a ceremony at London's Tate only a few years ago, but the Britain gallery.

The judges praised Price's "seductive and immersive" video installations, which combine moving images, text and music.

One piece, "The Woolworths Choir of 1979," hauntingly juxtaposes news footage of a deadly department store blaze with clips of church architecture and musical girl groups. Another work, "West Hinder," was inspired by a ship that sank in 2002 with its cargo of luxury

Price began making films

prize judges said she had created a "powerful body of work over the last three years.'

In accepting the prize, Price said her career would be "unimaginable" without public support for the arts and hailed the other shortlisted artists, saying they had shared "respect, camaraderie and a sense of the absurd."

She said being nominated had brought her work to a wider audience and the prize money would allow her to "carry on working and make new ambitious things.'

NY's Wang named designer at Paris' Balenciaga

NEW YORK (AP)—Young downtown designer Alexander Wang is taking over the creative direction of storied Paris fashion label Balenciaga, likely bringing his cool-girl, sporty look to a house made famous by its founder for graceful, fluid lines.

The company made the announcement on Monday that 28-year-old Wang would fill the spot vacated last month by Nicolas Ghesquiere, who left after a 15-year run there.

cosmopolitan vision of design will naturally embrace and enrich the unique heritage of this fashion house," said Isabelle Guichot, president and CEO of Balenciaga, said in a statement.

Wang comes with credibility: His seasonal runway shows are considered bellwethers of fastfashion trends, and he has won Council of Fashion Designers of America awards in womenswear and accessory design.

Wang will oversee those catdernity and individual and and he'll help craft Balenciaga's Paris collections in 1937.

overall image.

"I am deeply honored to embark on this new role for a brand and house that I have such great admiration and respect for," Wang said.

Still, he'll likely bring a different—and maybe more casual sensibility to a company founded by Spanish designer Cristobal Balenciaga, a contemporary of Coco Chanel and Christian Dior. The brand was founded in 1919, but Balenciaga started making real waves in fashion with its first

Three Cups of Tea co-author Relin commits suicide

GRANTS PASS, Oregon (AP)—David Oliver Relin, coauthor of the best-selling book "Three Cups of Tea," said in legal filings about a year before his recent suicide that his career suffered from allegations of lies in the story of a humanitarian who built schools in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Relin committed suicide in the suburban Portland city of Corbett last month, according to the deputy Multnomah County medical examiner, Peter Bellant, late Sunday. He was 49.

Relin died of a blunt force head injury on Nov. 14, Bellant said. He declined to provide other details.

The book, which has sold about 4 million copies since being published in 2006, describes how Greg Mortenson, the other coauthor, resolved to build schools for Pakistani villagers who nursed him to health after a failed mountaineering expedition.

The account came under scrutiny last year when "60 Minutes"

and writer Jon Krakauer said it contained numerous falsehoods.

In April, a U.S. district judge rejected a lawsuit by four people who bought the book, dismissing claims that the two authors, the publisher, and a charity conspired to make Mortenson into a false hero to sell books and raise money for an associated charity.

In an August 2011 court filing, Relin attorney Sonia Montalbano said the litigation "has had a negative impact on Relin's livelihood as an author."

NY Film Critics name 'Zero Dark Thirty' best film

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Film Critics Circle named Kathryn Bigelow's "Zero Dark Thirty" the best film of 2012, voicing its strong support for the grimly journalistic Osama bin Laden docudrama.

Bigelow, whose "Hurt Locker" won best picture at the Academy Awards in 2010, also won best director in the awards announced Monday, and Greg Fraser won for the film's cinematography.

"Zero Dark Thirty' confirms the massive talent of Kathryn Bigelow," said NYFCC chairman Joshua Rothkopf, a critic for Time Out New York. "'Zero Dark Thirty' is a very important movie. It's not triumphant and it's still a very significant dramatization of an important event. And we were knocked out by the film."

But the critics group also cast a loud vote for Seven Spielberg's "Lincoln," bestowing it with three awards: Daniel Day-Lewis for best actor, Sally Field for best supporting actress and Tony Kushner for best screenplay. Lewis' award for his performance as the 16th president is his fifth from the NYFCC.

Rachel Weisz earned best actress from the critics for her performance in the little-seen "The Deep Blue Sea," a period drama by the British director Terence Davies.

The supporting actor pick went to Matthew McConaughey for his performances as both a Texas district attorney in Richard Linklater's "Bernie" and as a male stripper in Steven Soderberg's "Magic Mike."

Shut out entirely were awards hopefuls "Les Miserables," "Argo," "Silver Linings Playbook" and "The Master."

This year's Oscar hunt is generally seen as fairly open, with a number of strong contenders. The NYFCC voting could help coalesce support behind "Zero Dark Thirty" and "Lincoln." Rothkopf, though, said that there was strong passion in voting for several films that didn't yield an award.

Michael Haneke's Palme d'Or-winning "Amour," a depiction of an aging married couple, took best foreign language film. Best non-fiction film went to "The Central Park Five," the documentary about the infamous 1989 New York rape case, co-directed by Ken Burns, his daughter Sarah Burns and David McMahon.

Best animated film went to Tim Burton's "Frankenweenie."

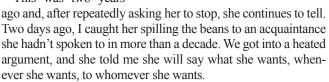
Daughter must zip her lips with mother who opens hers

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: When I was an adolescent, my father molested me. It took me 20 years to finally confide this secret to my mother. Afterward it felt as if a huge weight had been lifted from my shoulders.

That feeling lasted about two minutes. That's how long it took for her to get on the phone and spread the news to everyone she could think of.

This was two years



My feelings are NOT considered, even though I was the victim in all of this. I feel she tells my story to gain sympathy for

Abby, I'm ready to end my relationship with my mother. How can I make her stop flapping her lips?

THE GOSSIP'S DAUGHTER

DEAR DAUGHTER: I suspect you are correct about your mother's motives, and you have my sympathy. Because you can't "make her stop flapping her lips," you will have to accept that she can't be trusted with any confidential information.

As I see it, you have two choices. The first would be to cut her out of your life (for which I wouldn't blame you), and the other is to avoid sharing ANY personal information with her in the future.

DEAR ABBY: My 21-year-old daughter, "Shannon," has moved back home and has a part-time job. We pay for her health and car insurance. Because her funds are limited, I asked her to make me a list of things she might want for Christmas. The two things she wants are a tattoo and a piercing.

I told her that while I respect her wish to express herself, I do not want to pay for something like that. I said if she wants a tattoo and a piercing, she will have to save her money and get them. She became upset with me and said I should give her what SHE wants instead of something I prefer.

I know there are things Shannon needs. Am I selfish for not wanting to give her a tattoo or piercing when I'd rather spend my money on something more practical like shoes, clothing or incidentals?

SENSIBLE MOM IN LONGVIEW, TEXAS

DEAR SENSIBLE MOM: If you are uncomfortable paying for a body modification for your daughter, then don't do it. However, you should take into consideration that Shannon is an adult now and reconsider imposing your values on her.

If she were my daughter, I would give her a check for Christmas along with a note expressing holiday wishes and the thought that you gave her a healthy body, and with it, a nice complexion. It is now hers to do with as she wishes. Then cross your fingers and hope she'll have second thoughts.

DEAR ABBY: One of my neighbors insisted on giving me some handcrafted Christmas decorations that are hideous. I have never been big on decorating the outside of my home for the holidays, but when I do, I have my own that I like much better.

I know she expects me to display her items and will be all bent out of shape when she sees I haven't. Is there a diplomatic way to avoid hurt feelings?

FLORIDA READER

DEAR READER: Not really. So hang one or two of them in an inconspicuous place when you decorate for the holidays, so they will be "lost" among the items you prefer to display, or refrain from decorating this year.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles. CA 90069.

22 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

IT'S GOTTA BE LIKE? IS HATE. BEING LIKE A WHAT?! THE ALTERNATIVE A BUG?

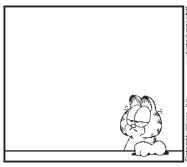
I IMAGINE BUGS AND GIRLS HAVE A DIM PERCEPTION THAT NATURE PLAYED A CRUEL TRICK ON THEM, BUT THEY LACK THE INTELLIGENCE



I MUST'VE PUT MY FINGER ON IT.



By Bill Waterson Garfield®







Bv Jim Davis

Adam@home



Tijuana

21 Space

of

38 24

STUMPED?





(SI.)

39 Pirate's

42 Com-

Fido

down

46 Needle

case

able

50 Holler

tion

48 Portrayal 49 Verifi-

45 Grate

44 Duck

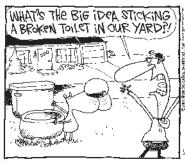
refrain

mand to



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex







By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWC	RD	By Eug	gene Sheffei
ACROSS	40 Corn	59 Rod	20 Mimic
4 Deervalies	مدانست	and the same	00 E T 'a

ACROSS	40 Corn	59 Rod	20 Mimic
1 Recycling	spike	partner	23 E.T.'s
contain-	41 "Yeah,		craft
ers	right!"	DOWN	24 Gullet
5 Cauldron	43 Pirouette	1 Honk	25 Ship
8 Aladdin's	pivot	2 "—	in a
_	45 Just say	have	Gilbert &
12 And	no	to do"	Sullivan
others	47 Senator's	3 Houston	work
(Abbr.)	minimum	acronym	27 Cushion
13 "Go,	age	4 David's	29 Spy org.
team!"	51 Fermi's	weapon	30 Yon
14 Israeli	particle	5 Flourish	maiden
airline	52 One of	6 Scull	32 Picked
15 Hamlet's	Alvin's	tool	up where
castle	cohorts	7 Central	you left
17 Theater	54 Certain	subject	off
award	55 Mangy	8 Strong	34 Seam-
18 Aircraft	mutt	and	stress'
19 Tomor-	56 Hebrew	regal	aid
row, in	month	9 Tuna	37 Insult

22 Grand Hamelin 11 Entreaty tale **58** Coop 16 Tide 23 Ref dweller type 26 Energy Solution time: 21 mins. 28 Ancestor BRIG Noah 31 Equitable 33 Knock 35 Great Lake 36 Possessed

57 The -

Piper of

type

10 Primary

53 Colorahours Yesterday's answer 12-5

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15				16					17			
18	Τ	\vdash			Г		19	20		Τ	Τ	
			21				22					
23	24	25		26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
		41			42		43		44			
45	46						47			48	49	50
51					52	53						
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

For answers to today's crossword, call. 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touchtone/rotary phones. (18- only.) A King-Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Frankie Muniz, 27; Keri Hilson, 30; Margaret Cho, 44; Little Richard, 80.

Happy Birthday: Secrets will lead to a vulnerable position where you will be faced with decisions that transform your current lifestyle. Don't ruin a chance to get ahead because you are too involved in rumors. State facts and move forward with your plans tucked neatly away until you are ready to present something spectacular. Timing will be crucial. Your numbers are 7, 16, 21, 23, 32, 40, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Actions within reason will bring suitable results. Avoid anyone trying to pressure you into spending or indulging in something you don't want

to pursue. Disperse anger by putting more energy into getting stellar professional results. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't wait for someone else to make a move. Watch

how others respond and make your choices based on popular demand. A partnership can be advantageous if you spell out what you want and what you are willing to offer. **2000**

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't allow a personal involvement cause you to make a poor choice. An older colleague or friend may cause problems or added responsibilities if there is a misunderstanding due to technological devices. 😂

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are in control and should be moving forward with your plans with enthusiasm. Socializing and networking will lead to new acquaintances and business prospects. Love is on the rise, and spending quality time with someone will pay off. ô000

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Someone will hold you back or try to control you. Make sure you have your plans thought out and ready to initiate. A problem with a child, lover or older family member will lead to added responsibilities. Make changes that ensure your safety. ���

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Information will be key to getting what you want and when. Discussing plans with family, friends or people in your community will help pave the way to turning a dream into a reality. Love is on the rise, and socializing will bring you joy. 🛇 🛇 🗘

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Big ideas are fine if they are reasonable. Do your factfinding before you instigate something you may not be able to finish. Baby steps will help you reach a destination that is doable and can lead you to bigger and better opportunities. ••••

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A lastminute alteration must not ruin your plans. Juggle whatever is required to finish what you start. Taking hold of a situation will allow you the freedom to do as you please. Hide your emotions and you'll gain respect and support. ••

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Problems with authority will set in if you don't honor rules and regulations. Caution while traveling will be necessary to avoid underhanded or unorthodox procedures being used to dominate a situation. Stick close to home. 🛇

EUGENIA

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Timing will be the key to your success. Watch what everyone else is doing and you will instinctively know when to make your move. A deal in the making will bend in your favor if you are patient, authoritative and show self-confidence.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Not everyone will be looking out for your best interests. Let your intuition and innovative ideas guide you in a direction that will help you build a strong base that allows you to utilize your strengths. Adaptability and diversity equal success.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep things simple, to the point and within your budget. You'll come up with a plan that will help you please the ones you love. A positive turn of events will get you back on track financially, physically and emotionally.

Birthday Baby: You are willful and welcome a challenge. You are proud and unique.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

12/05

		8				4		
2			1		9			5
	9		8	4	5		6	
		9				7		
6		4				9		8
	7	5				9 3 2	2	
		1				2		
	3		4	6	7		1	
	3 5						3	

Difficulty Level ★★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer								
8	9	3	1	2	4	5	7	6
6	2	5	8	3	7	4	1	9
4	7	1	6	5	9	8	2	3
9	1	6	7	4	5	3	8	2
7	3	4	9	8	2	1	6	5
2	5	8	3	1	6	7	9	4
3	6	7	5	9	8	2	4	1
1	8	2	4	6	3	9	5	7
5	4	9	2	7	1	6	3	8
Difficulty Level + +								

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD

appear in the puzzle — horizon-ind them and CIRCLE THEIR IOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below fally, vertically, diagonally, even backward, ring mero and \sim LETTERS ONLY, DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD, The ALL ABOUT PINS

Solution: 10 letters

Р	F	S	Ş	F	S	Ε	R	Τ	W	0	L	L	Ε	Υ
Α		Α	Т	Т	Α	С	Н	1	Ν	G	Ε	D	Α	J
Т	Χ	Ν	S	R	С	Ν	Ε	С	-	V	Ε	D	Ν	Ε
Т	Т	S	C	T	Α	Ε	C	Ş	O	L	1	D	Ç	W
E	U	Ν	0	U	Ε	ı	J	Υ	D	L	0	Н	Н	Ε
R	R	1	L	Ν	S	Ν	G	В	0	R	Α	S	0	L
N	Ε	Ρ	О	О	Ε	Н		Н	Ο	Ε	Τ	Ρ	R	R
s	S	Н	R	R	Α	Ε		Ν	Τ	٧	Н	R	Ε	Υ
S	S	S	S		Т	Ν	D	О	G	L	U	1	D	L
Ε	Ε	U	R	R	S	Υ	Т	L	Ν	1	Μ	Ν	L	Т
W	Ζ	Ρ	0	Ε	В	Α	D	G	Ε	S	В	G	Q	Ν
1		Н	R	В	1	0	\mathbb{N}	(G)	Τ	Α	S	С	G	- 1
Ν	S	Т	0	F	S	Ρ		Т	Н	R	Ε	Α	D	Ο
Ģ	Κ	В	R	O	O	C	Н	Ε	\$	S	Н	Α	R	Ρ
s	D	R	Α	D	Ν	Α	Τ	S	Ν	О	Т	Τ	U	В

2012 Universal Udlick - www.wenderword.com - Join us on Facebook Anchor, Attaching, Badges, Bobby, Brass, Brooches, Buttons Colors, Device, Fancy, Fastening, Fixtures, Flat, Gold, Hairpin, Hold, Holiday, Insert, Iron, Jade, Jewelry, Lapel, Long, Needle, Objects, Patterns, Pincushions, Point, Pushpins, Sewing, Sharp, Short, Silver, Sizes, Solid, Spring, Standard, Straight, Thread, Tips, Wires, Yellow Yesterday's Answer: Croutons

omia 148 COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 20, 27, 28, 26, 31, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 or 20 or 19 July not high volume 20, 27, 32, 33, 34, 35 or 20 or 19 July not high volume 30 or 30

LASSIFIED A

ᆂ╱═╅┪┎┇┇╌┇╱╗╬╗╬╗┪╚╗┪╒╗╬┆┇┙╇╗╱╬┪══┸╱═╃┪┎┇┇╌┇╚┸┇╗┇╚┪╒╗╬┆┇╒═

EMPLOYMENT

Auto Marine Inc. is looking for (1) Diesel Engine Mechanic. Must have 5 vrs experience. If interested, Call 323-2916 and ask for Adonis Santos or Leila Bais.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. \$600/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished, Back-up Generator, Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. \$550. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated bldg., 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Back-up generator. Free Wi-Fi, EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. \$450/mo. Call for an appointment 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 1-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$250/ mo. Pls. visit our website www. saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/24-hr water, security. laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. \$450-\$550/mo. Pls. visit our website www.saipan-properties.com. Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

ESTELITA D. MACALE P.O. Box 505893 Saipan, MP 96950 Phone: (670) 286-3299

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE **COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIAN ISLANDS**

FCD GU

CIVIL

ACTION

NO.

12-0527

NOTICE

HEARING

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION TO APPOINT GENERAL **GUARDIANSHIP** SEAN BENNETT D. PINEDA Minor Child,

ESTELITA D. MACALE Petitioner.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a Petition for Appointment of Guardian for the above named minor child by Estelita D. Macale, Petitioner, was filed with the above-entitled Honorable Court.

A hearing of said petition for Guardianship will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at the Superior Court before Honorable Kenneth L. Govendo on the 6th day of December, 2012 at 1:30 pm or as soon

Dated this 9th day of November, 2012.

Patrick V. Diaz Acting Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

DPA CAR MART



JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

2-Beautician (all around) Minimum Salary Min. 5 to 10 yrs. experience

Bespren Development Corp., dba Exquisite Beauty Salon Please contact Rudy at 233-6927

CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.

PMB 771 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement

1 General Manager. Salary \$1200.00-1800.00 pe nonth. 2 years management experience. Professional Scuba Diving Instructor License preferred. Proficient ir English & Japanese (reading, writing, speaking)

1 Scuba Diver. Salary \$1200-1500 per month. 2 years experience as a professional scuba diving. Professional Scuba Diving Instructor License required. Reading and writing foreign language preferred.

1 Dive Master/Helper. Salary \$1200-1500 per month. 2 years experience in scuba diving. Professional Scuba Diving Instructor License required. Reading and writing foreign language preferred.

Interested U.S. applicants, may email resume to

Open Date: November 29, 2012

Position:

Job Qualification:

AFADAI BEACH HOTEL

(1) Cook

\$5.55 per hour

and other related duties.

For more information you may contact Mr. Juan I. Tenorio, Manager for

Human Resources Department at (670) 234-6495/8 ext. 5840/2.

Employment application forms are available at Hafadai Beach Hotel,

Human Resources Department.

P.O. BOX 500338 SAIPAN, MP 96950-0338 | TEL: (670) 234-6495 to 98 FAX: (670) 237-2529

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

High School Graduated / (2) Years Experience.

Preferably Chinese and/or Western Style Cooking

QQ RENT A CAR Starting as \$29.99 without Insurance

Call: 233-8855, 483-8866 or 233-8866 \$100 Security Deposit Required
Garapan • Susupe • San Antonio

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 - Backhoe Operator \$ 5.55/hr

Min. 5 to 10 yrs. experience

espren Development Corp., dba Five Star Builders Please contact Rudy at 233-6927

CYC Corporation

Open Date: 11/30/12 • Closing Date: 12/07/12

(1) Store Manager. Salary: \$6.00 - \$7.00 p/h. Must have 5 yrs experience in managing retail operations. Chinese speaking highly preferred Valid Driver's License required Availability to work evenings, holidays, and weekends. Honest and Trustworthy.

1) Accountant. Salary: \$5.55 p/h. Bachelor in Accountancy. 5 yrs experience Knowledge of Federal and CNMI tax laws (can compute and file taxes). Knowledge in purchasing inventory, payroll and bank reconciliation. Ability to prepare financial reports. Proficient in MS Excel, MSWord and Accounting software.

Interested applicants must have their

Applicants may submit their resume at CYC Kagman Market, located near Kagman Elementary School. NO PHONE CALLS.

Close Date: December 07, 2012

Computer Repair Only \$ Student Dell LCD only \$70 FREE INSTALLATION 7 233-5641

LAUNDROMAT **FOR SALE**

or Laundry & Dryer Machines for \$100.00 - \$200.00 each

Located at Niko Laundry in San Roque Contact Emer at 287-0693 or 233-0234.

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPERVISOR

Must be College Graduate with a 4-year degree & with at least 5-year experience of property management, pawnshop and real estate Knowledgeable in real estate and drilling operations gold acid testing and QuickBooks preferred.

BUSINESS SUPPORT SPECIALIST

College Graduate with a 4-year degree and with real estate, pawnshop and drilling business experience is preferred. Has excellent customer service and organizational skills and skilled in dealing with financial and numeric data.

WELL DRILLER

Minimum of 8 years experience of monitoring water well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well servicing & well drilling using different methods & other ne drilling equipment, tools & machines. OSHA & HA7WOPER Certification are required.

DRILLER HELPER

Minimum of 5 years experience of assisting in wate well drilling & boring holes. Must have excellent knowledge & skill in well servicing & well drilling. OSHA & HAZWOPER Certification are required.

CONSTRUCTION LABORER

Minimum of 5 years experience of performing tasks involving physical labor in well construction & real estate development projects, specializing in water well drilling projects & commercial and residential property maintenance service. OSHA & HAZWOPER Certification are required.

COMMERCIAL CLEANER

Minimum of 5 years experience. Responsible in doing chores & any other related duties assigned by the employer by performing a combination of duties to clean & maintain private residence & office in a clean & orderly manner. With Driver's License & private transportation is preferre

Alexander Incorporated Alexander Building, Beach Road, San Jose Saipan MP 96950

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER For inquiries, please call 234–5117. Make it your daily habit. Log on to www.saipantribune.com

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Sales Operation Manager \$5.55 /hr 5 years continued experience with Bachelor's Degree in Sales & marketing. Must have extensive knowledge on consumer products. sales & promotional planning, inventory & budget control and product importation. Must have the ability to handle overall operations of wholesale business. Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & wholesale software system is a must. Must be available to work anytime

Sales Officer- \$5.55 /hr High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 3-5 years continued selling experience. Must have own reliable transportation. Ability to meet monthly sales target and must have extensive contacts in various industries. Must have extensive knowledge in Jananese and Korean products Proficiency in Microsoft Word programs & available to work on weekends and holidays.

sing Agent- \$5.55 /hr

High School graduate or an Associate degree holder with at least 3-5 years of experience Extensive knowledge in wholesale operation, ordering, planning, shipment. Extensive knowledge in Japanese and Korean products, preferred. Proficiency in Korean/Japanese speaking is advantage. Knowledgeable in Microsoft word programs & wholesale

Building Repair & Maintenance / Warehouse

orker- \$5.55 /hr

High school graduate or equivalent with at least 3-5 years experience. Must have extensive knowledge and experience in electrical, refrigeration, carpentry work. Familiar with picking, stacking and releasing of merchandize. Must be able to do some strenuous work with some lifting and carrying of items. Must know how to operate pallet jack and forklift equipments. Must be available to work on weekends and holidays.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at Alpex Saipan Inc. office, across Sar Antonio Chuch, San Antonio Village, For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Maintenance Supervisor- \$5.55/hr 5 years continued experience. Extensive knowledge in building inspection, repair safety measures and waste management. Ability to handle tenants maintenance request (electrical, plumbing, mechanical, carpentry). Knowledgeable in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws. Knowledgeable in electrical system installation in accordance with NFC and local government standards.

Building Repairs and maintenance (2)-\$5.55

3 years continued experience. Perform maintenance and repair jobs on buildings, knowledge in carpentry, plumbing, masonry and yard work.

Houseworker- \$5.55/hr 3 years experience, Honest, trustworthy, hardworking and follow instructions well. Can perform housework and cook Korean meals. Preferably Korean speaking.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at HS Lee Construction Office, 2nd floor of Highway Express Building middle Road. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Automotive Service Technician and Mechanics-(3) \$5.55/hr

3 years continued experience. Knowledgeable in general repair and replacement services to include: truing rotors and drums, disc drums and brakes, wheel alignment, struts and suspension, engine performance (tune-up), fuel systems, cruise control, sound systems, exhaust systems fluid and filter service, heating and cooling systems, air conditioning systems, drive train/U-joint service front wheel drive/constant velocity joints and specialty

Supervisor of Mechanics Installer & Repairer-

5 years continued experience. 4-year degree graduate, preferred. Knowledgeable in general repair of vehicles/trucks. Proficient in mechanical problems at all stages. Demonstrated proficiency in supervising and motivating subordinates. Excellent written and oral communication

Four Wheel Alignment Technician- \$5.55/hi 5 years continued experience. Heshbon HA710 Series Computer Alignment, preferred. Specialize in performing wheel Alignments and adjustment on medium and heavy duty vehicles. Comprehensive understanding of vehicle performance & under-body diagnosis, and knowledge of brake system, steering, suspension. Promote tire sales, provide technical service, repairs and diagnose tire wear

Accountant/Bookkeeper- \$5.55 /hr 5 years accounting experience. Bachelors degree, preferred. Proficient in Quickbooks /Peachtree software. Must have excellent communication, organizational and self management skills.

Interested applicants submit resume and police clearance at D & W Saipan Inc. office . 2nd floor of Highway Express Building middle Road. For application to be considered should be sent not later than Dec 5, 2012

WHATZIT Solution: Tied hand and foot

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS		СОМВО		
	(PRINT)	(PRINT AND ONLINE)		
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30		
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45		

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Hand 2 Foot 2

Find today's solution in classified section

RG3, Redskins closing in on Giants with win

LANDOVER, Md. (AP)—Robert Griffin III went down, the ball popped out, and the

Washington Redskins scored a touchdown.

Look out, New York Giants and the rest of the NFC East. If the rookie quarterback keeps getting those kinds of breaks, it'll be hard to keep him out of the title hunt for years to come.

As it is, RG3 has the Redskins within a game of first place, leading a fourth-quarter rally in a 17-16 Monday night victory over the Giants, giving Washington a three-game winning streak in which it has dispatched division rivals-Philadelphia, Dallas and now New York—one by one. "We know that our backs are against the wall," Griffin said. "And even though we won tonight, our backs are still against the wall."

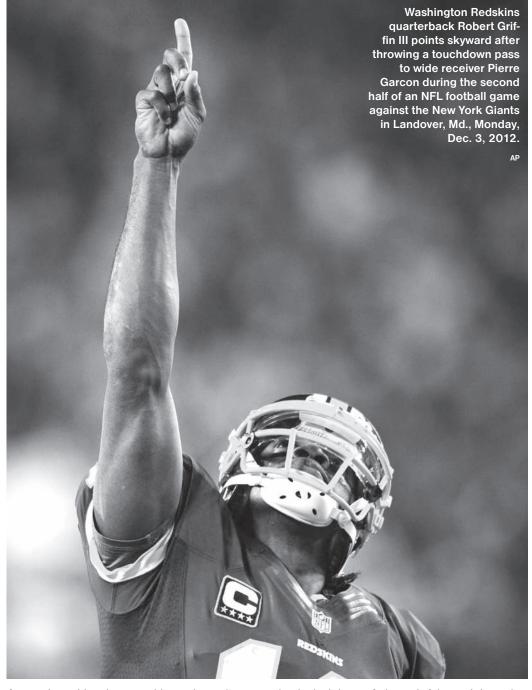
The Redskins (6-6) appeared out of the running at 3-6 a month ago, but Griffin is proving his team can never be counted out when he's on the field.

With the Giants (7-5) losing three of four and the Cowboys (6-6) also at .500, the division is up for grabs.

Griffin did get another of his goals accomplished Monday by assuring Washington will win more games than last season's 5-11 team.

"You can put a check by that one, but there's a lot more goals that this team is stretching for and striving for," Griffin said.

Griffin completed 13 of 21 passes for 163 yards and ran five times for 72 yards, breaking Cam Newton's NFL record



for yards rushing by a rookie quarterback.

Pierre Garcon, who had eight receptions for 106 yards and a touchdown, showing no signs

forced him to miss six of the

Alfred Morris ran for 124 vards on 22 carries, becoming the second Redskins rookie to run for 1,000 yards. Reggie Brooks had 1,063 in 1993.

Washington also ended a 10-game home losing streak in Monday night games, with Griffin again showing his knack for winning on a big stage.

Eli Manning completed 20 of 33 passes for 280 yards and a touchdown for the Giants, who had won 26 in a row on the road when holding a halftime lead.

They were ahead 13-10 at the break Monday against the Redskins, but they failed to finish the job for the first time since blowing a 21-0 halftime lead in a 24-21 loss to Tennessee in 2006.

Ahmad Bradshaw ran for 103 yards on 24 carries, and Victor Cruz had five catches for 104 yards for the Giants, who were uncharacteristically penalty-prone, getting flagged nine times for 73 yards.

The Giants moved the ball well all game, but the drives produced three field goals by Lawrence Tynes and only one touchdown—Manning's 4-yard pass to Martellus Bennett late in the first half.

The game's final score was Griffin's 8-yard pass to Garcon early in the fourth quarter, but the Redskins' first touchdown was one of the evening's crazy moments.

On second-and-2 from the New York 28, Griffin ran to his left and was being tackled by Stevie Brown after what would have been a 12-yard gain.

But as Griffin fell with his

back to the ground, the ball popped out and went right on the fly to Washington receiver Joshua Morgan 3 yards farther upfield. Morgan then ran 13 yards for the score.

"We didn't run (that play) in practice because we wanted to save it for the game," Griffin said with a grin. "I knew he was going to be there for it. ... Joshua did a good job being in the spot where he was supposed to be."

It was the second time this season that a Griffin fumble has turned into Redskins touchdown. Garcon recovered one in the end zone in a win over Tampa Bay.

Another fumble by the Redskins—this one by Morris in the third quarter-was recovered by the Giants and set off mayhem. New York defensive tackle Linval Joseph yanked at Redskins center Will Montgomery's leg. Montgomery kicked at Joseph in response, and Joseph stomped at Montgomery. Joseph and a Redskins player were whistled for offsetting unnecessary roughness penalties.

Giants safety Tyler Sash left in the first half with a hamstring injury and eventually was ruled out for the game, and New York right tackle Sean Locklear was carted off with an injury in the fourth quarter.

Redskins linebacker London Fletcher and left tackle Trent Williams, who were limited in practice by injuries Friday and Saturday, both started. The 37-year-old Fletcher extended his consecutive games streak to 236 - every game in his 15-year NFL career.

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)-Jovan Belcher walked off the field after his final practice, laughing and joking with Chiefs defensive tackle Shaun Smith about who would get into the game the most on Sunday afternoon.

The two walked down the halfdozen steps and into the training complex, past the inspirational signs that coach Romeo Crennel regularly posts on the wall, and through locker-room doors.

Never could anybody imagine it would be Belcher's last

"We was joking, having fun," Smith recalled quietly. "I'm going to miss him."

Friends and family of Belcher and his slain girlfriend, Kasandra Perkins, tried to come to grips Monday with the horrible events of the weekend. As they did, a portrait of the 25-year-old player began to emerge, that of a man devoted to his family, who cherished his daughter and loved football after making it to the NFL against long odds. Still, the question remained: What would drive him to gun down the mother of his baby girl and then take his own life?

"I didn't see anything at all," said his close friend and fellow Chiefs linebacker Derrick Johnson, who couldn't bring His top target again was

of the painful toe injury that season's first nine games.

Portrait emerges of Chiefs player's tragic end

himself to refer to Belcher in the past tense.

"Jovan is the definition of a teammate. He's going to give 100 percent every time," Johnson said. "He and I have grown really close since he's been on the team, and this is devastating.'

Investigators were still searching for a motive behind Saturday's shootings.

Belcher shot the 22-yearold Perkins multiple times in a home not far from where he played, and then drove to Arrowhead Stadium, where he was confronted by Crennel and general manager Scott Pioli. The two of them said they never felt in danger, and that Belcher thanked them for all they'd done for him. As police arrived, Belcher slipped behind a car and put the gun to his head.

Nobody from the Chiefs said that Belcher showed any signs of depression or other personal problems. Chiefs owner Clark Hunt spoke to team doctors and coaches and, according to him, they said Belcher had no history of concussions.

He was listed on a November 2009 injury report as limited in practice with a head injury, but he returned to the field a few days later against Oakland.

The NFL has put more emphasis on diagnosing and treating head injuries in recent years. Part of it stems from high-profile suicides involving players such as Junior Seau, and part is a response to numerous lawsuits filed against the league on behalf of players who blame head trauma for depression and other problems.

Autopsy and toxicology reports may indicate whether drugs or alcohol was involved. Those results are expected in six to eight weeks.

Belcher was never a star on the Chiefs though he played enough so that he was well known around town. He was seen at concerts, and both he and Perkins did volunteer work in the community.

He was an accomplished wrestler who played offense and defense at West Babylon (N.Y.) High School, and chose to attend the University of Maine. The university said Belcher bloodied an arm after "reportedly" putting it through a window in 2006, an incident referred to school officials for "disorderly

conduct and restitution." A former teammate, Mike Brusko, told the Bangor Daily News he blamed the incident on alcohol.

Family was of the utmost importance to Belcher, friends and former teammates said, and it was little surprise to anyone that he graduated with a degree in childhood development.

"I used to ask him questions about everything, and he always told me the funniest things," said Jerron McMillian, a safety for the Green Bay Packers and Belcher's teammate at Maine.

"He laughed a lot," McMillian said, "but he was always serious about his work. He'll play with you, but when it's time to work, he's tuned in, he's focused, and he's really emotional about how he does things.'

Only a small percentage of undrafted players make it in the NFL, but Belcher managed to beat the odds. At one point during his initial training camp, Pioli told members of the Chiefs' front office, "I really like this guy. I really think this guy can be a player."

He wound up playing in all 16 games as a rookie, even starting three times at linebacker. He became a full-time starter in 2010, when the Chiefs won a surprising AFC West championship.

His base salary this past season was more than \$1.9 million.

"He overcame a lot of things—position changes, small school. He overcame all those things through the force of his indomitable spirit," said Dwayne Wilmot, who coached Belcher at Maine and remained in touch over the years. "He lit up when he spoke about his mom, or hugged his family after games. His love for them fueled him to reach the heights he was able to reach."

Belcher met Perkins through Chiefs running back Jamaal Charles and his wife, Whitney, a cousin of the slain woman. Perkins was active in the Chiefs' women's organization, and the two of them recently had a baby girl.

"I was so excited when he became a father," Wilmot told the AP in a phone interview, "because he would be a great father."

Kansas City police said Belcher and Perkins had been arguing recently, and a friend of the couple, Brianne York, said the root of the argument was that Belcher "sometimes he would just be down in his man cave or whatever," and Perkins wanted to spend more time as a family.

Other friends said Perkins was out late at a concert before their final argument took place.

"It doesn't seem that that would be the end of their story," York said. "It just seems like if things didn't work out, they would have gone their separate ways."

The reality is that nobody may ever know exactly what happened in those final hours, minutes, seconds.

"I think what we try to do is explain the unexplainable," said Chiefs linebacker Andy Studebaker, who was close to Perkins as well. "This is such an unexplainable event that I don't think we could easily get through it with a singlesentence explanation."

Unexplainable, and with devastated families left behind.

"I was once told the hardest thing a person can go through is burying their child, so my heart goes out to their families—Kasandra's and Jovan's families," Johnson said. "You can just imagine what they're going through right now, and as a team, we lost a brother. It's going to take time, but life goes on.

Pistons beat Cavs for 5th straight home win

AUBURN HILLS, Michigan (AP)—Brandon Knight scored 17 points, and Kyle Singler and Tayshaun Prince had 15 apiece as the Detroit Pistons beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 89-79 on Monday night for their fifth straight home win.

Detroit is 1-10 on the road but 5-3 at home, and the Pistons have recovered a bit after losing their first eight games of the season. They beat Phoenix by 40 last week in their previous home game, and the victory over Cleveland wasn't really as close as the score indicated.

Detroit led 56-39 at halftime after holding the Cavaliers to 29 percent shooting.

Cleveland was without guard Dion Waiters, who sat out with a sprained left ankle. Anderson Varejao had 17 points and 18 rebounds for the Cavs.

Trail Blazers 118, Bobcats 112, OT

In Charlotte, North Carolina, La-Marcus Aldridge had 25 points and 13 rebounds, Luke Babbitt hit a pair of clutch 3-pointers and Portland overcame an 18-point fourth-quarter deficit to beat Charlotte in overtime Monday night.

The Blazers trailed 97-79 with 5:17 left in regulation, but stormed back to tie the score and sent it into overtime on Babbitt's 3 with 22 seconds left.

Charlotte had a chance to win at the end of regulation but Kemba Walker's drive and fallaway jumper from the baseline didn't fall.

Damian Lillard scored 24 points and Nicolas Batum added 17 points for the Blazers, who finished a road trip with two straight wins.

Ben Gordon set a franchise record with eight 3-pointers—all after halftime—for the Bobcats, who dropped their fourth straight



Detroit Pistons forward Jason Maxiell (54) and Cleveland Cavaliers guard Jeremy Pargo (8) vie for the ball in the first half of an NBA basketball game in Auburn Hills, Monday, Dec. 3, 2012.

game. Gordon finished with 29 points to surpass 10,000 for his NBA career.

Magic 102, Warriors 94

In Oakland, California, Glen Davis and Arron Afflalo scored 24 points apiece, and Orlando outlasted Golden State for its second straight victory.

A night after an emotional win against former franchise center Dwight Howard and the Los Angeles Lakers, Orlando outscored Golden State 33-25 to pull away in the fourth quarter. J.J. Redick had 10 of his 22 points in the fourth and Nikola Vucevic finished with 14 points and 15 rebounds to help the Magic begin their five-game West Coast trip 2-0.

Stephen Curry had 25 points and 11 assists and David Lee added 22 points and nine rebounds for the Warriors, who were going for their first fourgame winning streak under coach Mark Jackson. Instead, they had their five-game home winning streak snapped as they head on the road for a seasonlong seven-game trip.

Hornets 102, Bucks 81

In New Orleans, Ryan Anderson scored 22 points, Robin Lopez added 21 and New Orleans won for only the second time in 11 games.

Lopez shot 8 of 10 from the field and made all five free throws he attempted. He also scored 11 straight points during a pivotal 13-0 run in the third quarter that gave New Orleans the lead for good.

Jason Smith added 12 points and Greivis Vasquez had 11 for the Hornets, who shot 52.4 percent (43 of 82).

Brandon Jennings hit five 3-pointers and finished with 25 points. Monta Ellis added 17 for Milwaukee, which shot 38.2 percent (29 of 76) from the field.

Nuggets 113, Raptors 110

In Denver, Corey Brewer scored 19 points, JaVale McGee had 17 points and five blocks, and Denver withstood a late rally to beat Toronto.

Andrea Bargnani scored 23 points for Toronto and Kyle Lowry had 24, including 12 in the fourth quarter when the Raptors cut a 17-point lead to one with 2:18 left.

Ty Lawson, who finished with 16 points, hit a 3-pointer and Toronto missed its next three shots as Denver built a 110-104 cushion. Lowry hit another 3 with 14 seconds left, and after two free throws from Andre Iguodala, Amir Johnson hit a 3 with 7.9 seconds remaining to make it 112-110.

Kenneth Faried hit one of two free throws with 5.8 seconds left and DeMar DeRozan missed a long 3 at the buzzer.

Faried had 18 points and 10 rebounds. Six players scored in double figures for Denver.

Clippers 105, Jazz 104

In Salt Lake City, Blake Griffin scored 30 points, Jamal Crawford added 20 off the bench and Los Angeles handed Utah its first loss at home this season.

Crawford made a pair of free throws late and ex-Clipper Randy Foye countered with a 3-pointer with 1.2 seconds remaining. But Foye's desperation 3 after stealing the ensuing inbounds pass missed its mark.

Mo Williams led the Jazz against his former team with 20 points and 12 assists. Foye added 19 points and Al Jefferson had 16 points and 10 rebounds but had a layup blocked by De-Andre Jordan with 26 seconds left that would have tied the score at 101.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— The Boston

Red Sox began to play catchup by getting All-Star catcher Mike Napoli, Tampa Bay took a chance on James Loney and the New York Yankees prepared for more time minus Alex Rodriguez during a brisk Monday at baseball's winter meetings.

Soon after the Hall of Fame welcomed three new members from long ago, teams got busy. The World Series champion San Francisco Giants kept center fielder Angel Pagan, while the Texas Rangers brought back catcher Geovany Soto and made a deal for injured closer Joakim Soria.

Top free agent Josh Hamilton remained in play after hitting 43 home runs with 128 RBIs for the Rangers last season.

"I saw Josh on the flight here Sunday by accident. Coincidence, I guess, is a better word than accident," Texas general manager Jon Daniels said. "Chatted with him a little bit

Napoli to Red Sox, Loney to Rays, A-Rod out in the airport, I know he's here mention the knuckleballer by with a 4.48 ERA this year and Yankees GM Brian Cashman

in the airport. I know he's here probably to meet with some other teams."

Quite a contrast to last year's session, when the Miami Marlins often appeared to be the only player with their high-priced splashes. This time, inside the vast Opryland Hotel complex that houses a studio for famed country music station WSM, several teams had a grand ole time.

Coming off a last-place finish, Boston tried to resolve its catching situation. Napoli got a \$39 million, three-year contract, a person familiar with the deal told The Associated Press.

"Awesome addition to our team!" Red Sox pitcher Jon Lester tweeted.

The Red Sox are aiming at another prize, too, exploring trade possibilities to pry Cy Young Award winner R.A. Dickey from the New York Mets. Boston GM Ben Cherington didn't

mention the knuckleballer by name, simply saying the price for pitching was "always steep for the better guys."

Mets manager Terry Collins, meanwhile, left the trade talk to others.

"Anybody, anything can happen anytime. I've been in the game long enough to understand that," he said. "I don't think as managers we can sit here and get caught up on one move or another move and say, well, this is—we can't worry about that. We've got to worry about what we have and how we're going to get better.

"When we go to spring training, I'm going to look at the names on those lockers, and I'm going to figure out what we've got to do to be successful with the names on the lockers, depending on who they are," he added.

Also in play, maybe: Marlins pitcher Ricky Nolasco.

Nolasco, who went 12-13

with a 4.48 ERA this year and is signed for \$11.5 million next season, asked the payroll-slashing Marlins to deal him in the wake of trades that jettisoned Jose Reyes, Mark Buehrle, Heath Bell and Josh Johnson.

"I just think that he's just looking for a better situation than he feels what is presented to him in Miami," agent Matt Sosnick said. "We defer to the fact that we have no control and he's under contract for another year. The team certainly can do as they please. We felt it was important to make his feelings known."

The Yankees know Rodriguez won't be in the lineup on opening day. The 37-year-old third baseman, looking nothing like the slugger who ranks fifth on the career list with 647 homers, will have surgery on his left hip and could be out until the All-Star break.

"It's a significant blow,"

Yankees GM Brian Cashman said. "But we've dealt with significant blows and, hopefully, we'll be able to deal with this one, as well."

Rodriguez is a 14-time All-Star and baseball's highest-paid player at \$275 million. This will be his sixth stint on the disabled list in six seasons, including a trip in 2009 after surgery on his right hip.

Loney found a new home in Tampa Bay. The 28-year-old first baseman hit a combined .249 with six homers and 41 RBIs for the Los Angeles Dodgers and Boston.

Soria reached a two-year agreement with Texas after missing the entire season for Kansas City because of his second Tommy John surgery. The Royals declined their option on the two-time All-Star for next year.

The first announcement at the meetings podium came from the Hall of Fame, which said its pre-

integration panel had elected former Yankees owner Jacob Ruppert, longtime umpire Hank O'Day and barehanded catcher Deacon White. They were honored for their achievements before the first half of the 20th century, and increased Cooperstown's membership to 300.

Ruppert brought Babe Ruth to New York, built Yankee Stadium and transformed the pinstripers into baseball's most dominant power. He did so much, many people just figured he was already enshrined.

"The family is so thrilled," great-grand-nephew K. Jacob Ruppert told The Associated Press by phone. "His mark is now indelible."

"Growing up, I was under the impression that he was inducted sometime in the 1940s or 1950s. But I guess it never happened. Some things in history aren't appreciated. If it's not in the here and now, it's off the radar screen."

Expanded replay, however, is still important to Major League Baseball.

Whatever happens, no excuses—Pacquiao

By ROY LUARCA PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER



HOLLYWOOD— Life goes on for Manny Pacquiao

sult of his fourth bout with Juan Manuel Marquez on Dec. 8 (Dec. 9 in Manila).

If he wins by knockout as he

envisions, well and good. If he wins by decision again, so be it. An upset would be difficult to accept, but Pacquiao said he can live with that. He won't whine and complain like what Marquez have been doing for eight years.

"No excuses," Pacquiao told Manila-based sportswriters at his unit at the gated Palazzo

here. "Whatever happens I always praise God."

Reminded that he's been promising a knockout to finally silence Marquez's loud mouth, Pacquiao said: "Praise God kung ganoon (if that happens)."

Of course, the Filipino ring icon is determined to show Marquez, his bashers and doubters that he's still boxing's poundfor-pound king.

Coming off a bum decision loss to unbeaten Timothy Bradley last June, Pacquiao also wants to show the world that as he approaches his 34th birthday on Dec. 17, the power and skill that made him the sole eightdivision world champion are still there.

Asked what he plans to do to



Pacquiao

live up to chief trainer Freddie Roach's promise that a "new Pacquiao" will show up on fight night at the MGM Grand Arena, the Sarangani representative merely smiled.

"Secret," he said, then refused to elaborate.

Pacquiao did train behind closed doors for seven weeks at Roach's Wild Card Gym here. Fact is, even the Filipino reporters who usually were given access to the sparring sessions were barred from early entry Saturday (Sunday in Manila).

What the coaching staff, including assistant trainers Buboy Fernandez and Nonoy Neri, openly declares is that Pacquiao will be more aggressive and will be throwing more punches against Marquez than what he unleashed against Bradley. There will also be more combinations to watch out for.

Though the plan was for Pacquiao to continue his morning run at Griffith Park, the occasional drizzle forced its cancellation. Instead, Pacquiao went to church and then took an afternoon nap after lunch.

Famished when he woke up, Pacquiao was munching on a sandwich when he granted the very brief interview at his sleeping quarters.

SIS

From Page 28

After the conclusion of the tournament, the team was presented with the MISO perpetual trophy, which will be kept on display in SIS' trophy case until the crowning of next year's champion.

The White Geckos managed to evade its main rival Grace Christian Academy Eagles on the main stage after both teams finished the regular season neck-and-neck atop the standings.

In addition, SIS' junior varsity Green Geckos claimed third place over the Mount Carmel School Knights.

Notably, this year's tournament was extra special as both Tinian and Rota fielded squads in the competition. MISO was proud to feature the visiting squads and plans on continuing its efforts in making their voyage an annual occurrence. MISO also hopes to have the neighboring islands participate in other postseason sporting

events as well.

SIS White received the top seed via a close tiebreaker and went through Saipan Southern High School Manta Rays in two sets, 25-20 and 25-22, for a strong opening act in last weekend's competition.

The White Geckos then rolled past fourth-ranked MHS Blue Dolphins in two sets, 25-15 and 25-15, to advance into the upper bracket semifinal where they had their first run-in with GCA.

SIS White took the opening set, 25-16, but the Eagles rallied back to square the match in the second set, 22-25. The White Geckos then turned it on in the clutch to nab the win, 15-9, in the final duel and clinched a twice-to-beat advantage in the finals.

As for GCA, the Eagles stormed out of the gate and bumped off the Kagman High School Ayuyus in two quick sets, 25-16 and 25-12; but ran into some trouble getting past SIS Green in the second round.

GCA was upended by the Green Geckos in a lengthy opening set, 32-30, but re-

grouped in the second face off with a 25-22 victory to even the count and charged down the homestretch in the final set to capture the win, 15-8.

Then after enduring the loss to the eventual champs, GCA battled back through the lower bracket by knocking off the Green Geckos once again in the remaining semifinal, this time in two sets, 25-21 and 26-24, but succumbed to the White Geckos in the finale.

SIS White was well rested heading into the finals and also benefited from getting to thoroughly observe its competition. The Eagles fought valiantly, but the White Geckos proved to be too much to handle and outlasted the former in the first two sets, 26-24 and 25-23, to sign off its season with a sweep in the spotlight.

The battle for third place was another tale for the times as SIS Green and the Knights always seemed to have highly competitive back-and-forth outings every time they crossed paths since the regular season.

No. 7 MCS opened up against

fifth-ranked Rota and grinded out a win in two sets, 25-17 and 25-22: but bowed to the Green Geckos in their first encounter. 25-17 and 26-24

Down but not out, the Knights tore through the Ayuyus, 25-19 and 25-16, and then rallied over MHS Blue, 25-21 and 15-10, after fumbling the opening set, 17-25, to earn another crack at SIS Green.

As mentioned, the Green Geckos came up short to the Eagles soon after, but rebounded with a solid knockout victory over the Manta Rays, 25-12. and, 25-19, before silencing any doubt about which team was more deserving to take on GCA for a chance to muster an outside bet into the finals.

SIS Green hit the ground running in its third placer battle with its nemesis, 25-21, and rode the wave to victory in the second set, 25-16.

With MCS settling for fourth place the rest of the pecking order resulted in fifth place MHS Blue followed by SSHS, MHS Yellow, KHS, THS, and RHS.

From Page 28

SBC

were Jexler Caranto, Jones, and Joel Ortega. Jones and Caranto paired in the men's doubles AB and they dominated Gabriel and Ezekiel Macario, 21-17, 21-13. Caranto also saw action in the men's doubles B with Joel Ortega and together they slipped past Chris Hilario and Brandon Talania, 22-20, 23-21.

Joel Ortega's second win came in the men's doubles C, as he joined forced with Son Jae Ok in thumping Talania and Melvin Capalad, 21-5, 23-21. Then in the mixed C doubles,

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

EASTERN CONFERENCE

12 4 11 5

10 7

.750 **–** .688 1

14 .222 9

12 3 .800 -

9

8

.588 2 1/2

.529 3 1/2

.643 2 1/2

.438 5 1/2

13 .071 10 1/2

.533 -

.471 1

13 .316 4

11 .313 8

.500 1/2

Atlantic Division

Southeast Division

New York

Brooklyn

Boston

Atlanta

Charlotte

Chicago

Milwaukee

Indiana

Detroit

Washington

Central Division

Philadelphia

NBA STANDINGS

Joel Ortega teamed up with Diane Francisco and after dropping the opening game against Pebbles Basilgo and Aries Cordero, 13-21, the SBC duo swept the last two, 21-13, 21-9, to steal the win.

Meanwhile, Shirley's/Colgate's only two victories came from the mixed BC and mixed B divisions. Barlao and Talania played in the BC level and swept Son and Im Hong Sin, 21-16, 21-19. The in the mixed B, Hilario and Windy Fernandez bounced back from an opening game loss, 23-25, winning the final two games, 21-10, 21-17, against Oh Im Bog and Julie Lee.

7 0 .417 228 296

7 0 .417 277 337

7 0 .417 227 249

11 1 0 .917 351 221

8 4 0 .667 265 306

4 8 0 .333 248 359

2 10 0 .167 206 342

9 3 0 .750 303 242

7 5 0 .583 254 230

4 8 0 .333 229 265

9 3 0 .750 349 244

4 8 0 .333 258 257

3 9 0 .250 235 376

2 10 0 .167 188 322

5 0 .583 321 243

6 0 .455 242 262

6 6 0 .500 312 301

3 8 0 .273 184 282

11 1 0 .917 317 229

6 6 0 .500 333 285

5 7 0 .417 321 327 3 9 0 .250 235 292

8 4 0 .667 296 259

4 8 0 .333 300 315

4 8 0 .333 186 234

4 0 .667 294 198

6 0 .500 262 272

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

N.Y. Jets

Miami

South

x-Houston

Indianapolis

Tennessee

Jacksonville

North

Baltimore

Pittsburgh

Cincinnati

Cleveland

West

y-Denver

Oakland

East

San Diego

Kansas City

N.Y. Giants

Washington

Philadelphia

South

y-Atlanta

Carolina

North

Green Bay

Chicago

Minnesota

Tampa Bay

New Orleans

N-CREDIBLES

From Page 28

tista teamed up for RPCF 1 and timed in at 3:56:34.06, just over a minute ahead of third placers Rustico Valino and Ponce Corotan of Rusti Ponce (3:57:44.91)

Team To Beat's Jay Diyco and Gerald Rangamar also joined the men's 2-person MTB race and submitted 4:13:38.75 to finish ahead of two mixed squads— Team Tan and Baby Ko.

The husband-and-wife tandem of Samson and Glorybel Tan ruled the mixed team event

after making it to the finish line at the 4:25:05.06 mark. They won by less than two minutes against Baby Ko's Rommel Cruz and Joann Salazar, who combined for 4:27:40.44.

In the solo division, Sendin posted the fastest time among 16 MTB entries with his 3:40:55.15. Sendin topped the 16 to 35 age group, as he led by more than one hour against runner-up Donivan Mendiola (5:11:30.38). Samuel Tanenbaum rounded out the Top 3 with his 6:05:27.31.

Thirteen-year-old Jerome Diyco had the second best time in

the MTB race with his 3:41:33 and was the lone entry in the U15 division, while Ricky Suba and Noel Ignacio prevailed in the 36 to 45 and 46-and-above age groups, respectively.

Suba was one of the only two riders in his age group to complete the century race under four hours with his 3:48:20.81. Runner-up Butch Sublemente was the other biker to break the four-hour barrier after clocking in at 3:56:41.09. Bon Ferrer rounded out the Top 3 with his 4:06:01.81, followed by Joel Felizario (4:07:46.97) and Japanese Katsuki Ishimatu (4:22:38.18).

Ignacio recorded the closest win in the MTB race after timing in at 4:22:10, just 37.91 seconds ahead of runner-up Renato Gaviola (4:22:47.91). while Alexander Gozon was not far behind at third with his 4:27:01.22.

Other finishers in the 46-andabove age group were Ruben Leynes (4:38:16.41), Ramon Payong (4:38:55.69), Goodwin (4:39:50), and Edgar Abalos (4:55:14.81).

Meanwhile, results of the two-

person road bike and four-person races will be reported in Saipan Tribune's Thursday edition.

14 .222 5 1/2 WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division 12 3 14 4 Memphis San Antonio .778 Houston 8 8 .500 5 .471 5 1/2 9 Dallas 8

New Orleans

Northwest Division Oklahoma City 14 4 .778 -Denver .500 5 10 .474 5 1/2 Utah 8 .467 5 1/2 Minnesota 8 10 .444 6 Portland

> **Pacific Division** L.A. Clippers 6 .647 -Golden State 10 7 .588 1 L.A. Lakers 8 .471 3 Phoenix Sacramento

East

Detroit Arizona

West 8 3 1 .708 289 171 San Francisco 5 0 .583 242 202 6 1 .458 221 267 Seattle St. Louis

x-clinched playoff spot y-clinched division

CLOSE

From Page 28

MP United-1's standings with its 5-3-4 card.

It was a sorry loss for Paire, which lead at halftime, 4-2, with Borja already recording a hat-trick just 25 minutes into the match.

Borja scored her three straight goals in a span of seven minutes, nailing her first in the 11th, the second in the 15th, and the third in the 18th. Paire's other goal in the opening half came from Kate Campbell in the 10th.

Mei Demapan sliced Paire's lead to two 1-3, when she got her first goal in the 13th minute before Zena Demapan moved MP United-1 closer with a goal in the 17th, 2-3. However, Borja

made it another two-point lead when she completed a hat-trick one minute later.

first minute of second half, cut eighth win and drop IFC-1 to a The third game of the night end-Paire's advantage to one again and three minutes later the game was even after Michiko Tenorio also made it to the scoreboard. Zena Demapan then earned her second goal in the 33rd to put MP United-1 in the lead for the first time, 5-4, while Mei Demapan made it a 6-4 lead four minutes later.

After being cold in the first few minutes of the final half, Borja broke Paire's silence, but her goal in the 38th minute was not enough to prevent MP United from stealing the win.

Matansa 4. IFC-2 2

Matansa stayed in the hunt for

the division title after edging IFC-2 in the second game.

Bernadette Horey canned a Tish Wang's goal, just into the pair of goals to give Matansa its **Tan Holdings 4** dismal 1-2-9 mark.

Horey found the back of the net early, scoring in the fifth minute and Matansa went up, 2-0, off Maile Aldrich's goal three minutes later. Vanessa Gramlich then put IFC-2 in the board in the 10th minute, but Jovelyn Epperson's goal in the 12th brought Matansa's lead back to two.

In the second half, it was IFC-2's turn to score first with Goldie Ague getting her first goal just 23 seconds into the final frame. However, that was not enough to spark an IFC-2 rally, while Horey notched one more goal in the 39th minute for

good measure.

Shirley's 4,

ed in a draw.

Mary Kay Alferos canned three goals for Tan Holdings, including the equalizer in the 38th minute. Chloe Salvosa recorded the other goal for Tan Holdings, which remained in sixth place in the team standings with its 3-4-5 slate.

Elaine Enriquez also had a hat-trick for Shirley's, scoring the team's first three goals (first minute, 20th, and 34th), while Mia Carreon's goal in the 37th minute put her team on top before Alferos tied the match anew one minute later. Shirley's now has a 6-4-2 record for fourth place in the team standings.

.389 4 1/2 4 12 .250 6 1/2 **NFL STANDINGS** AMERICAN CONFERENCE WITPct PF PA

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS y-New England 9 3 0 .750 430 260

SAIPAN TRIBUNE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012 27

4th Tan Holdings Tennis Classic

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Alex Park goes for a backhand return to Robbie Schorr during their boys U12 singles title game in the 4th Tan Holdings Tennis Classic held last month at the American Memorial Park tennis courts.



Moris Villanueva chases the ball during his and Tommy Choi's boys U15 doubles match against Dylan Ackerman and Colin Ramsey.



Guam's Yuka Iwata, left, and Eddie Wu bump knuckles after scoring a point against Saipan's Carol Lee and Richard Asuncion in the mixed doubles 4.0 finals.



Robbie Schorr leaps to return a shot to Alex Park.



Tommy Choi serves.



Ami Tsukagoshi eyes the ball during her girls U10 title match against Mimi Sakano.



Amami Sakano gets ready to serve against Rafael Jones during their boys U18 semis game.



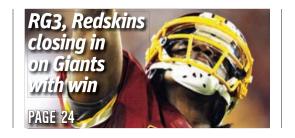
Mikayla Lopez, left, and Jeff Race exchange hi-fives after getting a point in their mixed doubles open title game against Thea Minor and Bobby Cruz.



From left, Roy Pangelinan, Joy Minor, Lydia Tan, and Guam's George Lai pose for a group photo before their mixed doubles 40-and-above title match.



Bobby Cruz makes a baseline return while Thea Minor looks on.







28 WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2012

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SIS White Geckos prevail in boys v-ball



СОNTRIBUTED PHOTO Saipan International School White Geckos pose for a team photo with the championship trophy after the conclusion of the 2012-2013 MISO boys volleyball postseason tournament last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

he Saipan International School White Geckos triumphed over nine other squads to capture the Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization 2012-2013 Boys Volleyball title last Friday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



topher Cepeda, Tommy Choi, Andrew Johnson, Rafael Jones, Christopher Lam, Seoung Joon Lee, Clay McCullough-Stearns, and Chang Hyun Song. The team is coached by Mili Saiki.

See SIS on Page 26

SBC back in Traders badminton finals

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

Defending champion



SBC, which won last year's championship against the Berks Blazers, won eight of the 10 semis matches against Shirley's/ Colgate, picking up where it left off in the elimination round. The defending champion also faced its eventual semis foe in the last day of the round-robin elimination and recorded a similar 8-2 victory to keep its undefeated record and gain the top seeding in the playoffs.

Seven wins via sweeps and



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Saipan Badminton Club's Alma Ortega makes a return from the backline during her and Oh Im Bog's game against Shirley's/Colgate's Toshiko Obata and Brandon Talania in the last day of elimination in the Traders Insurance badminton tournament at the TSL Sports Complex. SBC also faced Shirley's/Colgate in the semis and won, 8-2.

one three-game victory advanced SBC to the finals that will be played this weekend. SBC will face the winner of the Golden Racquets-Berks Blazers semis pairing. Results of the second semis duel will be reported in Saipan Tribune's Thursday issue.

Alma Ortega and Lee So Young gave the defending champion one of its two-game triumphs after downing Shirley's/Colgate's Toshiko Obata and Roma Barlao in the women's doubles BC, 22-20, 21-19. Ortega also played in the mixed AB and she and Glenn Bluutjens defeated Hapi Gabriel and Obata, 21-13, 21-14.

Bluutjens was credited for another win for SBC, as he teamed up with Sam Jones in sweeping Gabriel and Jerry Hibi in the men's doubles A, 21-17, 21-17.

Duplicating Bluutjens and Alma Ortega's multiple wins

See SBC on Page 26

N-Credibles, Sendin top MTB division

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com

The N-Credibles' Nelson Pagaduan and Nonie Eugenio and Charlie Sendin emerged as

two-person and solo mountain bike divisions of last Saturday's 6th Hell of the Marianas Century Cycle Race.

The clocked read 3:47:22.84 when Eugenio completed the 100-kilometer race at the Pacific Islands Club after taking over from Pagaduan from the Saipan Radar Station, leaving the No. 1 finishers in the men's THE PIC CENTURY CYCLE with more than a

nine-minute lead over runnerup Team RPCF 1.

Rey Tentia and Dennis Bau-See N-CREDIBLES on Page 26



Charlie Sendin, front, and Jerome Diyco head to Kagman via the back road in Papago during last Saturday's 6th Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

Close games in women's futsal

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Mei and Zena Demapan scored

twin goals apiece to lift MP United-1 to a 6-5 win over Paire in Division B of the 2012 NMIFA Women's Futsal Fall League last Monday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

Zena and Mei drilled MP

United's last two goals for enough cushion, as they survived Guinevere Borja's bid to bail Paire out of trouble.

With the win, MP United-1 kept the third spot in the eightteam field, improving to a 7-2-3 win-draw-loss record and staying close behind division leader IFC-1 (9-2-1) and Matansa (8-1-3). Paire is two notches below

See CLOSE on Page 26



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United-1 goalie gets ready to throw the ball during a game against Matansa in the first round of the NMIFA women's futsal league at the TSL Sports Complex late last month.